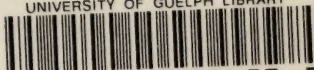


UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH LIBRARY



3 1188 01093452 5



UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

The Library

SOCSCI

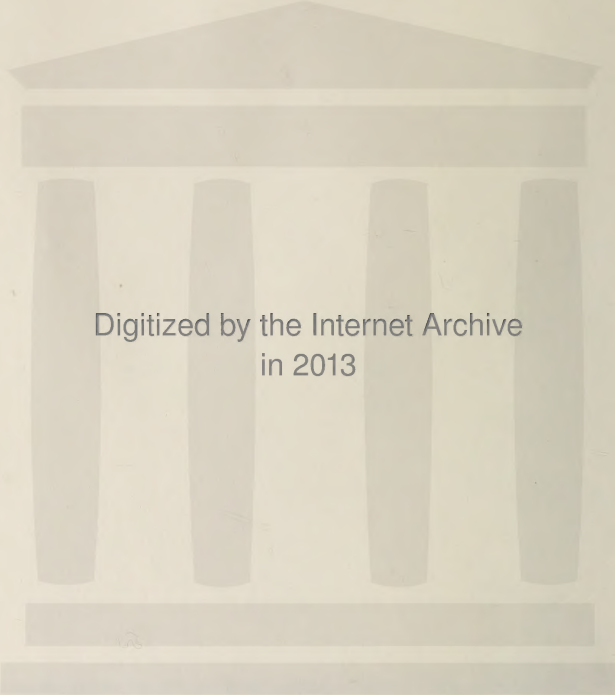
DA 880.I6 K5 1905

Kingussie and Upper Speyside
(Badenoch)



Date due _____

[illegible]



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2013

FIFTH EDITION.
Entered at Stationers' Hall.

Kingussie

AND

Upper . .



Speyside

(BADENOGH).



A DESCRIPTIVE GUIDE
TO THE DISTRICT ❖ ❖

(With Map of Badenoch).

PRICE, SIXPENCE.

PUBLISHED BY GEORGE A. CRERAR,
BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER, KINGUSSIE.



A. CRERAR,

Family Grocer, Provision Merchant,

GAMEREALER,

. . House Agent and Valuator, . .

Star Buildings, KINGUSSIE.

FRUIT and VEGETABLES,

All kinds in their Season.

FINEST HOME CREAMERY BUTTER,

Quality Unsurpassed.

PURE HEATHER & CLOVER HONEY


From Local Apiaries.

GROCERIES and PROVISIONS . . .

Of Finest Quality.

FRESH FISH and GAME,

Regular Supplies.

AGENT FOR 

Palethorpe's Royal Cambridge Sausages.

Inventories and Valuations carefully attended to.

ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

ALEXANDER CRERAR,

AUCTIONEER,

Valuator and House Agent,

❧ KINGUSSIE. ❧

SALES, INVENTORIES, and VALUATIONS
carefully attended to.

The "BADENOCH REGISTER" of Houses and Apartments to Let
during the Summer Months, Free on Application.

THOMSON'S DYE-WORKS, PERTH.

SUPERIOR DYERS and CLEANERS

of All Classes of

Ladies' Dresses, Gent.'s Suits, Overcoats, Military
and Volunteer Uniforms, &c.

HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS,

Such as Furniture Covers, Summer Curtains, Linen
and Floor-Cloths, Eider-Down Quilts, Rugs, &c.,
Cleaned or Dyed, and Highly Finished.

Sole Agent for this District—

ALEXANDER CRERAR, Merchant,
KINGUSSIE.



JAMES M. GRANT,

Baker, Pastry-Cook, . . .

Purveyor, and Confectioner,

KINGUSSIE.

HOVIS, BERMALINE, & VEDA BREAD

Biscuits of all Kinds, by all leading Manufacturers.

Wine and Butter Biscuits, own make, fresh every day.

SPECIALITIES IN—

**Cakes, Tea Bread, Afternoon Tea Cakes,
and Scotch Shortbread.**

All Cakes, etc., of finest materials and fresh daily.

BREAKFAST ROLLS. - DISHES COVERED.

SHOOTING LODGES SUPPLIED.

**Marriage, Christening, and Birthday Cakes
TO ORDER.**

CHOCOLATES AND CONFECTIONS

of all kinds by best makers.

Kingussie Tea Rooms & Ladies' Room

THE LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

L. MACKINTOSH,

High Street, KINGUSSIE,

Has always on hand a Large Stock of

DRAPERY GOODS

.... in

LADIES' TWEEDS, CASHMERES, MERINOES, BEIGES, SERGES, PRINTS, STAYS, HATS, BONNETS, and TRIMMINGS of all kinds; with a large assortment of WHITE and GREY CALICOES, SHIRTINGS, SHEETINGS, QUILTS, SELISIAS, TABLECLOTHS, TOWELS, and LINENS, &c.

The GENTLEMEN'S DEPARTMENT comprises a Large Quantity of

—❧— TWEEDS —❧—

In HOMESPUN, CHEVIOTS, IRISH, SCOTCH and ENGLISH, in all the Leading Shades, and First-Class Qualities.

TAILORING IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

HIGH-CLASS DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY

made up on the Premises.

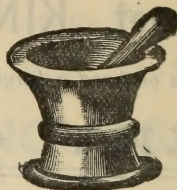
P. GRANT, M.P.S.,

Dispensing

and

Family . .

Chemist,



Next Door
to
Post Office.

KINGUSSIE.

HOUSE BELL—NEXT DOOR

PREScriptions ACCURATEly DISPENSED.

My Stock of DRUGS, CHEMICALS, and PHARMACEUTICAL PREPARATIONS is FRESH and of the FINEST QUALITY obtainable.

Surgical Appliances and Invalids' Requisites.
., Aerated and Mineral Waters.

Infant's Foods, Patent Medicines, Proprietary Articles, Sponges, Soaps, Toilet Requisites, etc., of best quality only.

PHOTOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT.

A VARIED STOCK OF

Plates, Films, and Printed Paper.

DARK-ROOM LAMPS, DEVELOPING DISHES, PRINTING FRAMES, SQUEEGEES, and other Photographic Requisites.

. *Albums, Mounts, and Mountants.*

Developing, Toning, Fixing, and Clearing Solutions
OF GUARANTEED QUALITY.

PLATES AND FILMS DEVELOPED AND PRINTED

ON SHORTEST NOTICE.

⚡ **DARK-ROOM FREE.** ⚡

Orders by Post carefully packed and promptly despatched.

Wolfenden's Hotel,

Within
Two Minutes'
Walk from
Railway Station.



. . Kingussie.

ENTIRELY RE-BUILT AND RE-FURNISHED.

Parties favouring this Hotel will receive every attention and comfort. Every information regarding Fishing.

LUNCHEONS, DINNERS, & GARDEN PARTIES Catered for.

- - - ANY SIZE OF MARQUEE SUPPLIED. - - -

POSTING DEPARTMENT.

SINGLE AND DOUBLE MACHINES OF ALL SORTS.

. . . SHETLAND PONIES TO RIDE OR DRIVE.

Contracts made per Week or Month.

Charges strictly moderate.

Motor Cars Stored.

Petrol and Lubricating Oil kept.

. **BOOTS AWAITS ALL TRAINS.**

W. WOLFENDEN, Proprietor.

Duke of Gordon Hotel.

This Old Established Hotel has been purchased by **Mr. Wolfenden**, and will be conducted under his personal superintendence.

L. M. CARRICK,

FRUITERER AND FLORIST,

HIGH STREET,

— KINGUSSIE.

All kinds of FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES according to
Season, at Lowest Prices.

• • •

Loose Cut Flowers and Ferns for Bouquets, and other purposes.

• • •

WREATHS, CROSSES, etc., at very short notice.

COUNTRY ORDERS promptly attended to.

ROYAL HOTEL,

— KINGUSSIE. —

THIS First-Class FAMILY and TOURIST HOTEL, now under
New Management, has been enlarged and greatly improved, and
is one of the most Comfortable and Commodious Hotels in the North.
Every comfort and attention given, at the lowest possible price.

HIRING IN CONNECTION.

Fishing. Golfing. Lawn Tennis. Billiards.

— BOOTS AWAITS ALL TRAINS. —

DUNCAN MACPHERSON,

PROPRIETOR.



Mackenzie & Cumming,

+ FAMILY BUTCHERS, +

—∞— KINGUSSIE.

**Always on hand a Large Supply of BUTCHER MEAT
of BEST QUALITY.**

PICKLED TONGUES.

CORNER BEEF.

SALT ROUNDS.

SAUSAGES, FOWLS, &c.

SHOOTING LODGES SUPPLIED.

All Orders punctually attended to. . . .

. Van delivers in the Country.

Telephone No. 50.

Telegrams—"LOVES, PERTH."

THOMAS LOVE & SONS,



Furniture. Upholstery. Ironmongery.
Carpets. Linoleums. Linens.



LIBERTY & CO.'s SPECIALTIES. . . .
. ANTIQUE DEALERS.

REMOVAL CONTRACTORS.

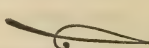
Ample Dry Stores in Separate Compartments.

FURNISHINGS ON HIRE
. FOR THE SEASON.

Re-Making of Bedding. Furniture Restored.
Licensed Valuers and Assessors.

Thomas Love & Sons,

12-19 ST. JOHN'S PLACE,

 **PERTH.**

Business Hours, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Shut on Saturdays at 4 p.m.

11
. Kingussie .
and
Upper Speyside 11

(Badenoch).

A Descriptive Guide
to the District, with
Map of Badenoch. .



Kingussie :
Published by George A. Crerar,
Bookseller and Stationer

800412

PREFACE TO FIFTH EDITION.

IN submitting a Fifth Edition of CRERAR'S GUIDE TO BADENOCH, the publisher begs to express his acknowledgments to the public for the cordial reception accorded to the booklet when first issued fifteen years ago, and for the continued demand for it season after season as successive bands of visitors have made their appearance in the district.

The Guide was originally written merely with the object of presenting in a handy form such information with regard to the principal places of interest in the ancient lordship, and the best means of reaching those, as strangers were likely to find convenient and useful.

The present edition has been in part re-written, the old matter revised and extended, the history of Badenoch out-lined ; the leading topographical features sketched ; roads, paths, hills, rivers, streams indicated ; and the stranger told where are to be found hotels, shops, post and telegraph offices, churches, banks, workshops in out-of-the-way situations, golf courses and other means of recreation,—and the effort has been attempted to present the varied information in the briefest possible form, so that the stranger may be enabled to make it his own with as little trouble as possible by reading as he runs through the country.

CONTENTS.

General Remarks.

	PAGE
Attractions of Badenoch as a Holiday Resort,	1
Situation of Badenoch,	2
Modern Invasion of Badenoch,	3
A Natural Sanatorium Improved,	4
Favourite Summer Resort of Old,	5
Queen Victoria at Ardverikie,	6
Other Visits of the Queen,	6
Dukes of Gordon,	6
Pure Air and Magnificent Scenery,	8
Opinion of Professor Blackie,	9
Early History of Badenoch,	11
The Wolfe of Badenoch,	11
The Wolfe of Badenoch's Castles,	12
The Gordons as Lords of Badenoch,	12
The Clan Chattan in Badenoch,	13
Facilities for Angling,	13
Deer Forests and Grouse Shootings,	14
Kingussie Rise and Progress,	14
Recent Improvements,	16
Progress since 1891,	17
The New Star Hotel,	17
New Tenant of Duke of Gordon Hotel,	18
New Distillery,	18
The Sanatorium,	18
Golf, Bowling, Tennis, Curling, &c.,	19
Auction Mart,	19
Railway and Coach Travelling,	19
Kingussie Railway Station,	19
Do. Hotels, Banks, Churches, Doctors, &c.,	20
District Hotels, &c.,	21
Golf Courses, &c.,	22

Walks round Kingussie.

	PAGE
Glen Gynack and Loch Gynack,	22
Craigbeg and Gordon Monument,	23
Ruins of Ruthven Castle,	23
Cave of Raitt,	24
Kingussie Churchyard and Monastery,	25

Excursion Sketches.

Table of Distances,	27
Bridges on Spey,	27

Excursion No. I.

*Kingussie to Loch Insh, Kinraig Station, Insh Historic Church, Loch Alvie,
Aviemore, Loch-an-Eilan.*

Alvie Parish and Place Name,	28
Mr. Macpherson's Balavil Estate,	29
Macpherson, of "Ossian Poems" Celebrity,	30
Balavil Mansion-House,	31
Spey in Spate: Inland Sea,... ..	32
Old Inverness and Perth Road,	33
The Mackintosh Dunachton Estate,	33
Loch Insh,	34
Dunachton Lodge—Pictish King's Fort,	35
Great Decrease of Trout,	35
Dunachton Dungeon and Mackintosh's Court-House,	36
A Magnificent Panorama,	37
King Harold: a tradition and a query,	38
Leault: Path to Dulnan,	39
Kinraig House,	39
Alvie Parish Church: Soudan Memorial,	39
Public Library,	40
Kinraig Station and Hamlet,	40
Queen at Boat of Insh,	41
Insh Parish Church—Worship for 1000 years,... ..	42
The Church Culdee Chained Bell,	43
Drive Eastwards Resumed,	44
Sir John Ramsden's Alvie Estate,	44
The Picts in Alvie,	45
Alvie Lodge,	46
Kinrara,... ..	46
Duchess of Gordon's Tomb,... ..	47

V.

Excursion No. I.—*continued.*

	PAGE
Exits from Kinrara,	47
Loch Alvie,	47
Lynwilg Hotel,	48
Gordon Monument : Waterloo Heroes,	49
A Magnificent View,	49
A Great Musician's Highland Retreat,	50
"Stand Fast, Craigellachie!"	51
The Cairngorms from Craigellachie,	51
Aviemore Station and Bridge,	51
Enormous New Hotel,	52
Rothiemurchus : Loch-an-Eilan,	52
Largest Pines in Scotland,	53
Rafting on the Spey,	53
Places of Interest in Rothiemurchus,	54
The Doune,	55
Inverdrurie : Coylum Bridge,	55
Loch-an-Eilan, Wolfe's Castle, and Osprey's Home,	56
An Eagle's Battle,	57
New Nesting Place,	57
Remarkable Echo,	57
Great Fire at Loch-an-Eilan,	58

Excursion No. II.

Kingussie to Tromie, Insh, Feshie Bridge, Rothiemurchus, Loch-an-Eilan.

Parish of Insh,	59
"Ossian Macpherson," Schoolmaster,	60
Shortest Road to Glenfeshie,	61
Village of Insh,	61
Manse of Insh,	62
Invereshie Mansion-House,	63
River Feshie and Feshie Bridge,	63
Leave Insh : Enter Alvie,	64
Another Road to Glenfeshie,	64
Origin of a Spirited Strathspey,	65
Feshie Bridge Post Office,	66
Rothiemurchus,	67
Beautiful View of Kinrara,	67
The Doune,	68
Loch-an-Eilan Road,	68

Excursion No. III.*Kingussie to Manse of Insh and Glenfeshie.*

	PAGE
From Manse of Insh,	69
Snow the year Round : Sad Tradition,	70
Destruction of the Feshie,	70
Glenfeshie from Ballantian,... ..	71
Wester Kingussie Road and March,	72
"Green Glenfeshie,"	72
Admiration of the Queen and Professor Blackie,	72
The Lodge,	73
"The Huts," the Bedford Family, and Landseer,	73
A Triumph of Landseer's Genius,	73

Excursion No. IV.*Kingussie to Glentromie and Gaick.*

Glentromie Lodge,... ..	75
Gaick Lodge,	76
Marvellous Panorama of Hills and Lochs,	77
Lochs, Streams, and Angling,	78
Terrible Catastrophe at Gaick,	79

Excursion No. V.*Cluny Castle, Laggan, and Loch Laggan or Glentruim and Dalwhinnie.*

Newtonmore—Remarkable Progress of a Village,	83
Drovers and Golfers compared,	84
"Sliabh-na-Strone,"	84
Spey Bridge : Road to Perth,	85
Battle of Invernahavon,	85
Phones Lodge,	86
Mansion-House of Glentruim,	86
Dalwhinnie,	86
Prince Charlie's Cave,	87
Newtonmore : Lochaber Road,	88
Laggan Parish : Cluny Estate,	88
Cluny Castle,	90
Laggan Bridge Post Office : Hotel,	91
Road to Fort-Augustus,	91

Excursion No. V.—*continued.*

	PAGE
Corryarrick and Fort-Augustus,	92
Dalchully House : A Memorable Incident,	92
Splendid Pictish Fort,	92
Loch Laggan and Fort-William Road,	93
Aberarder Shooting Lodge,	94
The Queen of Badenoch Lakes,	94
Favourite Angler's Resort,... ..	95
Ardverikie Castle,.. ..	95
Loch Laggan Hotel to Tulloch Station,	96



Maker of . . .
Scotch Fabrics

By
Special
Appointment



To His
Majesty
The King.

Specialities.

SCOTCH FABRICS of every description.

. . *HIGH-CLASS* . .

LADIES' & GENTLEMEN'S TAILORING.

. . .

Dressmaking and Millinery.

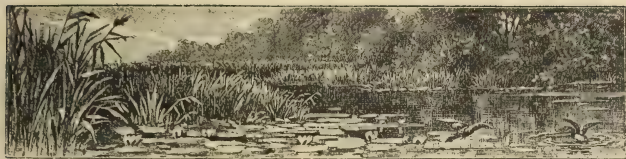
. . .

Day Excursion Return Tickets are issued between
Kingussie and Grantown at Single Fare.

A. C. GRANT,

CALEDONIAN HOUSE,

Grantown-on-Spey, N.B.



KINGUSSIE AND UPPER SPEYSIDE (BADENOCHE).



ATTRACTIONS AS A HOLIDAY RESORT.



BADENOCHE may justly claim that it enjoys the distinction of having for many years occupied a very leading position amongst the most favoured summer and autumn resorts in the Highlands of Scotland. The main reason for this popularity, of course, lies in the unquestioned fact that the district is really a magnificent natural sanatorium 'twixt the Grampian and Monaliadh Mountains, the highest inhabited portion of the British Isles. There is every reason to anticipate that the favour acquired by the ancient lordship will increase rather than diminish as time goes on, in consequence of the ease with which, in these days of fast trains, it can be reached from the cities and populous towns in the south. And there are not wanting signs that this locality of Upper Speyside, now so much favoured as a place of temporary sojourn during the bright, sunny time of the year, may in the future come to occupy a very important position as a place of residence even

during the rigours of winter. The open-air treatment of pulmonary consumption in bracing situations at high altitudes has been for some time receiving the most serious attention of the medical faculty. There is still a considerable difference of opinion among the highest authorities ; but in any case, Badenoch is one of the highest inhabited districts in the United Kingdom, and, with its fine atmosphere and easy means of communication by rail with other places, seems to be an ideal region wherein the Nordrach or open-air system of treating chest complaints can be put to the most effective test.

SITUATION OF BADENOCH.

Badenoch is one of the inmost parts of Scotland, being about equi-distant between the Atlantic and the German Oceans. Situated in the extreme south of Inverness-shire, it extends to about 40 miles in length from the boundaries of Lochaber on the west to Craigellachie, near Aviemore Station on the Highland Railway, on the east, and about 20 miles in breadth from Mar and Atholl in the Grampian peaks on the south, to the water-shed of the Findhorn in Strathdearn in the north. It has an area of about 551 square miles, or upwards of 350,000 acres, and the well-known River Spey flows through the central valley for some 35 miles. The lowest level in the district is 700 feet ; Kingussie, the capital, is 740 feet above sea level, and Lochan Spey, where the river has its origin near the Lochaber border, is 1143 feet. The Highlanders of old had a saying that ran—

Spè, Dè, agus Tatha,
Tri uisgeachan 's mo' fo'n athar.

Which in English means—

The three largest rivers that be
Are the Spey, the Tay, and the Dee.

The highest peak is 4149 feet, a shoulder of Braeriach ridge, Braeriach itself being outside Badenoch by about a mile, and

Ben Macdhui, the second highest hill in Scotland, by about two miles. The district includes quite a number of peaks from 2000 to 4000 feet high. The north-coming traveller enters Badenoch on the south near two huge hills called the "Badenoch Boar" and the "Atholl Sow," some few miles north of Dalnaspidal, the highest station on the Highland Railway, the altitude at this point being 1484 feet above the sea level, and leaves it at "Stand Fast Craigellachie" Rock, about a mile south of Aviemore Station, the line running for several miles parallel with the Spey, and between the Grampians on the south and the Monaliadh hills on the north.

MODERN INVASION OF BADENOCH.

Since the opening of the Highland Railway in 1863, Badenoch has been visited in each successive year by an ever-increasing body of strangers from all parts of the country, indeed may it be said from all parts of the world. During the past thirty years especially, the annual influx of summer and autumn visitors, exclusive of sportsmen, has been remarkable. Of these, many of course have been mere tourists, who made but brief stays while passing through in delightful quest of new scenes in portions of Scotland which had been in pre-railway days practically inaccessible to the multitude by reason of imperfect inter-communication. But of the hundreds who made their first acquaintance with Badenoch simply as birds of passage, a very large number, by their own admission, found themselves so charmed by the varied scenic attractions, so exhilarated by the bracing air, and so interested by the, to them, piquant strangeness of the manners, customs, dress, foibles, and modes of speech, that they returned in subsequent years with the view of making a more minute and extended exploration of what was evidently an unusually interesting portion of the kingdom. Many of those who made casual acquaintance in the manner described from 15 to 30 years ago have come back season after season for prolonged residence

until their faces have become almost as familiar as those of the natives.

The piquant strangeness of manners, dress, &c., are, however, not now-a-days observable, for the people of Badenoch are in all respects as advanced as those of any, even the most fashionable parts of the kingdom. Long gone are the times when careful housewives from the Southern cities carried in their baggage old clothing for themselves and their children, in the expectation that these garments would be good enough to wear in a Highland town, village, or glen. There is a tradition that some years ago an economising mamma, who came North under this hallucination, telegraphed to her spouse, "Send all best clothing, please; as fashionable as Scarboro', and more fashionable than Margate!"

A NATURAL SANATORIUM IMPROVED.

As a consequence of the growing favour extended to the newly found beautiful Natural Sanatorium the old topographical features of parts of the district have been much changed by the erection of scores of villas, many of them very large, and all of them more or less elegant, for the purpose of providing the accommodation necessary to meet the ever-increasing demand. Not a few of these have been put up to the order of visitors who have acquired feus from local landed proprietors. In this way the aspect of Kingussie, Newtonmore, Kincaig, Aviemore, and other more rural places, has, during the past decade, undergone a most complete transformation; whilst most old buildings of any size in town, village, and hamlet have been either remodelled, renovated, or extended to suit modern requirements. Figures giving an approximation to the sum expended during the past fifteen years on the erection of new dwelling-houses, improvements on pre-existing old residences, and on drainage, water, and other schemes, give a total that can hardly fail to excite surprise. It has been estimated that during these years some £120,000 has been expended in and

about Kingussie alone, and well on to £40,000 at Newtonmore, while there have been also large outlays at Kincaig, so that the building expenditure within a radius of six miles of Kingussie during the past decade must have considerably exceeded £150,000. At Aviemore also considerably over £30,000 has been spent on building, the new hotel alone costing about £25,000.

FAVOURITE SUMMER RESORT OF OLD.

But while Badenoch has participated to an unusual extent in the progress and prosperity of summer holiday resorts, due to the latter-day desire of dwellers in cities to get some relief for a time from the terrible pressure on mind and body caused by the exigences of modern conditions of life and work, the fact deserves to be recalled to memory that the lordship has, from the earliest periods recorded in historical documents, been a favourite place of resort for purposes of sport and general recreation.

Tradition, as well as more authentic testimony, makes it clear that Badenoch for centuries must have been a favourite resort of devotees of the chase, whether royal, noble, or otherwise.

Fergus, one of the old Caledonian kings, is said to have had his hunting seat on the shores of Loch Laggan, in whose waters there are two islands—*Eilan-an-Righ* and *Eilan-nan Conn*—King's Island and Island of Dogs, names which seem to go some way to confirm the ancient tradition. Ardverikie, on the south side of Loch Laggan, where now exists one of the finest castles in the Highlands, is by some considered to be derived from the Gaelic, *Ard-Fherguis*—King Fergus' Height—but is more correctly, perhaps, *Ard-Merigie*, the height for rearing the standard. The Gaelic is *Ard-Mheirgidh*, from *meirge*, a standard. In any case a standard is associated with royalty, and that royalty resided not far distant from the spot whereon a standard is raised seems not to be an unwarrantable assumption.

QUEEN VICTORIA AT ARDVERIKIE.

Whether or not a King Fergus had a seat on Loch Laggan side is a point of no material consequence. It is a matter of more importance to this work dealing with Badenoch to be enabled to declare that a royal standard has been reared with legitimate pride at Ardverikie in times not of tradition, but of newspapers, electric telegraphs, and daily postal services ; and that Ardverikie came to within very measurable distance of being the Highland home of the late Queen Victoria. Her Majesty came to Ardverikie with the Prince Consort in the autumn of 1847, when the place was occupied as shooting tenant of Cluny Macpherson by the then Marquis of Abercorn. The Queen and the Prince remained on Loch Laggan side for some time, and were so charmed with the scenic beauties of the place that it is understood it was only after hesitation that Balmoral, on Deeside, was selected for a Royal Highland residence, instead of Ardverikie in Badenoch.

OTHER VISITS OF THE QUEEN.

Here it may be mentioned that the Queen paid other two passing visits to Badenoch—once in 1860, when she and the Prince Consort *incognito* rode from Balmoral across the Grampians, down through Glenfeshie, boated across the Spey at Boat of Insh, opposite where Kincaig Railway Station now is, and thence through Strathspey to Grantown, where the night was passed in one of the hotels ; and again in 187—, during her period of widowhood, she drove from Kingussie Station to Inverlochy Castle in Lochaber. On the latter occasion Her Majesty received a magnificent Highland welcome at Kingussie, the inhabitants for miles around turning out *en masse*, under the leadership of “Old Cluny,” Chief of the Clan Macpherson, then living. Westwards the progress was a right royal one.

DUKES OF GORDON : DISTINGUISHED EARLIER VISITORS.

Even, however, still earlier than the time of the Queen’s first visit, and long before the Highland Railway had been thought

of, Badenoch was a favourite summer resort. From the early years of last century the attractions of the district for sporting and health purposes had been discovered. In the infant days of the Inverness and Perth coaches, many families and individuals distinguished in various circles in London and elsewhere were in the habit of finding their way to Upper Speyside for purposes of recreation. Natives who are now nonogenarians can recall the sensation created by the arrival in the lordship of splendidly equipped conveyances filled with "gentry," intent on passing some months among the deer and grouse on Badenoch hills and moors, these being attended by retinues of servants, the mighty cavalcades inspiring the unsophisticated, untravelled local inhabitants with wonder, not unmixed with awe. The last Duke of Gordon was long Lord of Badenoch, and with the celebrated Duchess Jane—a leader of Scottish as well as English Society, the friend of Sir Walter Scott and Robert Burns—dispensed hospitality on a princely scale in whatever part of the lordship they might be temporarily residing. To visit them in the North came relatives, friends, and acquaintances in troops, many of whom afterwards formed close connections with the district on their own account. To mention names of visitors in pre-railway days would be to recall people distinguished in varied walks of English and Scottish life—politicians, heads of the greatest banking and mercantile establishments in London, eminent artists, divines and medical men, and ladies whose *salons* were for a time transferred from the metropolis to occasionally very un-*salon*-like quarters among the glens along Upper Speyside. Of the visitors in these early days, as an annual guest of a ducal family, was a doctor who afterwards came to be one of the most distinguished members of the faculty of medicine in Edinburgh. This was the late Sir Douglas Maclagan, Professor of Medical Jurisprudence. He died but quite recently, after having received honours at the hands of the late Sovereign, and the highest distinctions that could be conferred upon him by the faculty, as well as having bestowed upon him the lasting esteem and affection of all who

came in contact with him, either in a social or professional capacity. The eminent physician, even in his young days, predicted that if easy means of communication were once established from the south, Badenoch would eventually become one of the most desirable and most frequented parts of the Highlands for purposes of health and recreation. He used to enlarge upon the extreme importance of Badenoch, Rothiemurchus, and Strathspey as natural sanatoria for persons of feeble health, and especially those suffering from affections of the lungs. Many individuals so affected were sent by him to these places, and some of them, after many years, are still living examples of the permanent benefits derived through following his advice. The eminent physician saw his early prediction fulfilled to an even much greater extent than he had anticipated decades before he himself died an octogenarian.

PURE AIR AND MAGNIFICENT SCENERY.

Pure bracing air, and fine scenery are appreciated by the great majority of human kind, and presumably their existence must enter as essential elements into the consideration of every individual or head of a family when determining the choice of a locality wherein the annual holiday is to be spent, with the greatest benefit to health and the greatest enjoyment to the senses.

An atmosphere purer or more exhilarating than that of Badenoch cannot certainly be breathed in Great Britain, and inland scenery wilder, more beautiful, and more diversified than the great central valley and the hills that encompass it offer to the enthusiast in such matters cannot be found in any other part of Scotland. The grand and the terrible present themselves in the gigantic heights and the awful gorges of the Grampians south of the Spey ; the desolate, although in the flush of the year the beautiful in its desolation, on the Monaliadh or grey mountains stretching northwards twenty or thirty miles towards Inverness ; while between the bounds of

Lochaber and Strathspey the eye is feasted with a delightful diversity of scene—hill and dale, moor and loch, rock, wood, and river presenting themselves almost regular in their irregularities and in the most charming confusion.

Situated as the district is midway between the German and Atlantic Oceans, it is protected by almost enclosing hills from the piercing blasts of the east, while the intervening mountains largely intercept the rain-charged clouds that roll from the Atlantic; and the sub-soil being very light and porous, moisture is quickly absorbed. Consequently the climate is found admirably adapted for invalids and those whose systems have become enfeebled by pressure of work, the balmy odours from the resinous pine woods that abound being found to exercise a peculiarly grateful and soothing effect especially on persons affected with chest complaints. Abundant testimony to the wonderful recuperative power of air on Speyside is supplied by the yearly increasing resort to Badenoch of gentlemen of the learned professions, as well as others harassed by business cares.

PROFESSOR BLACKIE IN "PRAISE OF KINGUSSIE."

The late Professor Blackie discovered in Badenoch the elixir that enabled him almost to the last to retain perennial youth, and impelled him to burst into poetry and song. Listen to what he says in

"The Praise of Kingussie."

Tell me, good sir, if you know it ;
 Tell me truly, what's the reason
 Why the people to Kingussie
 Shoalwise flock in summer season.

Reason ? Yes a hundred reasons :
 Tourist people are no fools ;
 Well they know good summer quarters,
 As the troutling knows the pools.

Look around you ; did you ever
See such sweep of mighty Bens,
With their giant arms enfolding
Flowery meads and grassy glens ?

Come with me, ye Lowland lubbers,
Learn to knock at Nature's door ;
Peeping clerks and plodding scholars,
Start with me from Aviemore.

See that kingly Cairngorm
From his heaven-kissing crown,
On the wealth of pine-clad valleys
Northward looking grandly down.

From his broad and granite shoulders,
From huge gap and swelling vein,
Through the deep snow-mantled corrie,
Pouring waters to the plain.

Thither mount with me ; and, standing
Where the dun-plumed eagle floats,
In God's face, who heaved the mountains,
Bid farewell to petty thoughts !

Or—if this sun-fronting grandeur,
And this strength-inspiring air,
Suits thee not—pursue the streams,
And whip the amber currents there.

Or, if feast of Nature please thee
In her rich and pictured show,
Come with me to lone Glen Feshie,
When the grey crags are aglow.

Come and learn the joy of working
In God's vineyard fresh and fair,
In the place which he appointed
For your faithful service there.

Come and know the grace of being
Gods in God's place where you stand ;
Know the bliss of reaping largely
Where you sowed with liberal hand.

Several gentlemen of eminence in the medical world have for years been in the habit of spending a portion of their holidays on Speyside—a sure testimony of their appreciation of the value of the district as a health resort.

EARLY HISTORY OF BADENOCH.

Badenoch first comes into the region of recorded authentic history in the 13th century. In 1229 Walter Comyn, or Cumyn, a member of a great Norman-French family, who came over to Britain with William the Conqueror, enters upon the scene as feudal proprietor of Badenoch. In that year he enters into terms with the Bishop of Moray in regard to the church lands, and to the natives or bondsmen of the district. Thereafter he is found in possession of Badenoch and Kincardine, now a parish further down the Spey. Walter subsequently became Earl of Monteith by marriage, and he died in 1257 without issue. A nephew, John Comyn the Red, succeeded him in Badenoch. John Comyn the Red died in 1274, and was succeeded by John Comyn the Black—John de Badenoch senior as he was called to distinguish him from John the Red Comyn, the Regent, Baliol's nephew, and claimant to the throne of Scotland, whom Bruce killed in Dumfries in 1306. Shortly after the battle of Bannockburn Bruce gave the Lordship of Badenoch to his faithful Lieutenant, Randolph, Earl of Moray. Earl Randolph died in 1332, and his two sons were successive Earls of Moray.

THE WOLFE OF BADENOCH.

In 1371, there enters upon the scene in Badenoch an individual whose name occupies an unenviable notoriety in Scottish history. Alexander Stewart, son of King Robert, in that year was made Lord of Badenoch by his father, and from the fierceness and turbulence of his character came to be known as "The Wolfe of Badenoch," whose doings are so graphically described by Sir Thomas Dick Lauder in the novel of that name.

The Wolfe by all accounts had a chronic quarrel with the Bishop of Moray in regard to certain church lands held in Badenoch. He ultimately seized these lands, and for this and the desertion of his wife, the Countess of Ross, for another, was excommunicated. In revenge, the Wolfe, in a transport of rage, sallied forth from his fortress of Lochindorb, between Grantown and Forres, in 1390, and burned the towns of Forres and Elgin, with the Church of St. Giles, the *maison Dieu*, the magnificent Cathedral—one of the glories of Scottish ecclesiastical architecture—and 18 houses of the Canons. For this he is said to have done penance in the Blackfriars Church of Perth. The Wolfe died in 1394, and is believed to have been buried in Dunkeld Cathedral, where, at all events, a marble tomb to and effigy of him exist.

THE WOLFE'S BADENOCH CASTLES.

The Wolfe's principal place of residence in Badenoch was at Ruthven, opposite Kingussie, where are still to be seen the ruins of a Government barracks that replaced his castle, and he had also fortified castles in Loch-an-Eilan, Rothiemurchus, and Lochindorb, some miles north of Grantown-on-Spey.

THE GORDONS AS LORDS OF BADENOCH.

The lordship of Badenoch was finally granted to Alexander, Earl of Huntly, by James II., by charter dated 28th April, 1451. His son, George, was Lord Chancellor, founded Gordon Castle, and according to Shaw, the historian of Moray, erected the Priory of Kingussie. The Gordons were nicknamed "Cocks of the North," because of their pre-eminence in northern politics. In 1599 Huntly was created Marquis of Huntly, and in 1684 the title was advanced to that of Duke of Gordon. George, the fifth and last Duke of Gordon, died in 1836, when the property passed into the possession of the Duke of Richmond and Lennox, as heir of entail, in whose person the title of Duke of Gordon again revived in 1876, the full title being now the Duke of

Richmond and Gordon. Save the church lands, all the property in Badenoch belonged to Huntly, either as superior or actual proprietor. In the 17th century the proprietors in Badenoch are found very numerous, Huntly having being very liberal in granting feus. The ancient lordship of Badenoch is now owned by the following proprietors, viz.:—the Duke of Richmond and Gordon ; Sir George Macpherson Grant of Ballindalloch and Invereshie, Bart. ; The Mackintosh of Mackintosh ; Sir John Ramsden, Bart. ; Mr. Baillie of Dochfour and Kingussie ; Cluny Macpherson ; Mr. Macpherson of Balavil, Newtonmore, and Phones ; and Mr. Macpherson of Glentruim.

THE CLAN CHATTAN AT BADENOCH.

Badenoch was the principal seat of the powerful Clan Chattan, who are well represented to this day. At the height of their power in the 15th century, their territory stretched across Mid-Inverness-shire almost from sea to sea, right through Strathnairn, Strathdearn, Badenoch, and Brae-Lochaber to Loch-Eil, with an outflow through Rothiemurchus to Braemar. The Clan Chattan were, in fact, the native Celtic inhabitants of Badenoch, but the ownership or superiority of the land did not belong to their chiefs, and the leading landlords they had to deal with were the two powerful Earls of Huntly and Moray.

FACILITIES FOR ANGLING.

In fixing upon holiday quarters now-a-days an element that enters largely into consideration is the facilities for angling afforded by any particular district. In this respect Badenoch is fortunate beyond many places in the Highlands. While rod fishing is prohibited on certain portions of large rivers, especially within deer forests, and there are restrictions on others during the shooting season, yet practically no restraint is placed upon any person who behaves, as all disciples of gentle Isaak Walton should do, and who observes towards those placed in authority those little ordinary courtesies which do much to sweeten life.

Gamekeepers are human, and frequently have most difficult positions to fill. Where bound down by instructions, orders must be obeyed and fulfilled. Few lessees in Badenoch impose upon their servants the obnoxious duty of prohibiting absolutely, and except in a few places, chiefly within the confines of deer forests, no decent angler need apprehend serious interference, at all events up to the arrival of the sportsmen themselves. A respectfully couched application to the shooting tenants will generally meet with a satisfactory response, and in any case it may be said that as a rule no irritating restrictions are placed upon angling for trout by well-behaved people on the majority of Badenoch streams and rivers. Within a radius of a few miles of Kingussie are the rivers Feshie, Tromie, Truim, Calder, Pattack, and Mashie, and a large number of hill streams and lochs, that can often be fished with successful results. Away north some miles in the Monaliadh hills is a splendid trouting river called the Dulnan, which falls into the Spey near Grantown. Many of the small tributaries of this stream and other district rivers yield first-rate sport. Thirteen miles by road or rail from Kingussie is Loch Ericht at Dalwhinnie, where fine baskets of trout and an occasional *salmo ferox* can be obtained. Boats are kept on the lake by the proprietor of Dalwhinnie Hotel, in the immediate vicinity. The loch is about 18 miles in length. Another famous trouting and *salmo ferox* loch is Loch Laggan, about 18 miles west from Kingussie, and for this magnificent sheet of water boats are kept for hire at Loch Laggan Hotel. Loch Insh, near Kincaig Station, 5 miles from Kingussie, and Loch Alvie, 3 miles from Aviemore Station, are preserved.

DEER FORESTS AND GROUSE SHOOTINGS.

Badenoch occupies, and has occupied for centuries, a very important position in the world of gun and rifle sport. Embraced within its boundaries are 30 moors and forests, or as in some cases a combination of both. Several of both are of immense area, and are considered to yield about the best sport in

Scotland. The deer forests of Glenfeshie, for instance, extend to 38,000 acres, and are good in average seasons for about 100 stags, besides a large bag of grouse. Gaick is 13,000 acres, and yields 50 or 60 stags and several hundred brace of grouse; Ben Alder Forest 30,000 acres, and about 80 stags; Ardverikie, 30,000 acres, and 90 stags. The grouse moors proper are large in proportion, and most productive. The rentals of the grouse moors range from £1500 downwards, while the combined moor and forest of Glenfeshie are rented at £3300 per annum.

KINGUSSIE RISE AND PROGRESS.

Kingussie derives its name from the Gaelic *Cinn-ghiubhsaich* (pronounced Kin-you-sich), which means the head of the fir-wood. The oldest forms of the name are Kynguscy, Kingussy, 1208; Kingusy, 1226; Kingucy, 1380; Kingusy, 1538; and Kyngusie, 1603. According to Shaw, the historian of Moray, Kingussie is a parsonage dedicated to St. Columba, and a Priory was founded in Kingussie by the Earl of Huntly about 1490.

Prettily situated close to the north bank of the Spey, it has a fine open view of the Grampians in all directions. On the north it is dominated by elevated terraces, behind which there immediately rise the fir-clad spurs of the Monaliadh hills. Viewed either from the north or south side of the Spey, Kingussie presents an appearance at once attractive and picturesque, with the Inverness and Perth and Lochaber road traversing its centre, and the Highland Railway skirting it on the south. Elevated 764 feet above sea level, it has the distinction of being one of the highest inhabited towns in Scotland. In the early days of the century evidence was not wanting that in time the place would become of some importance, but it was not till the opening of the Highland Railway in 1863 that Kingussie began to progress "by leaps and bounds." During the past twenty-five years the development that has taken place has been astonishing; the erection of many really handsome buildings in recent years has added greatly to the architectural features of the town, and given it an air of progress and prosperity. From

the early days of the Highland Railway, Kingussie began to receive the attention of tourists. Occasional visitors from a distance were warm in their expressions of admiration of the town and the surrounding district, and, as already stated, both have now become extremely popular as places of summer and autumn resort by families and individuals from the south. The inhabitants have for several years been exerting themselves strenuously to maintain and strengthen the popularity which Kingussie has acquired in the estimation of strangers.

RECENT IMPROVEMENTS.

So enlightened and far-seeing were some of the leading inhabitants, that as early as 1866 the Lindsay Act was adopted in order that the drainage, water, and other town's affairs might receive more adequate attention than it was customary to bestow upon such matters in Highland towns and villages at that time. Soon thereafter a complete drainage scheme was carried out, and a supply of water adequate to the growing requirements of a rising town was introduced.

Some years ago the want of suitable accommodation for public meetings was forced on public attention, and in commemoration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, in 1887, a substantial and elegant structure, capable of accommodating about 500 persons, was erected near the Railway Station, at a cost of £1500, and within the building, which is known as the Victoria Hall, there are a public library and reading-room, the former containing some hundreds of volumes, the latest daily and local papers, magazines, and other periodical literature.

The rapidity with which the town has been extending will be understood by observing the fact that the Commissioners in 1889 felt obliged to introduce another large supply of the purest water by gravitation from springs, three miles distant, at a cost of £1100.

In 1899 the Council had the whole of the street side-walks laid with concrete pavement, at a cost of several hundred

pounds, and the improvement effected by this means is most marked—the pavement, in addition to being a pleasure to walk on, presenting always a bright, cleanly appearance.

The boundaries have recently been considerably extended, and the maintenance of streets and roads within the marches, as well as the town's lighting, is under the Magistrates' own jurisdiction, and town's officers are specially charged with attention to these matters.

PROGRESS SINCE 1891—ESTIMATED BUILDING EXPENDITURE.

It is not very easy to estimate accurately the amount of money expended on actual building operations in Kingussie during the last quarter of a century ; but a fair approximation can be arrived at as to what has been done during the fifteen years which have passed since the first edition of this "Guide" was issued in 1890. During that period numerous large villas have been erected, chiefly on the terraces overlooking the town on the north, but a number also on the lower level, while several important buildings have been put up in the town proper, and a great many more modernised and renovated. The estimated outlay on buildings, chiefly villas, is over £120,000. In the town itself, the most important structure by far is

THE NEW STAR HOTEL,

which has been rebuilt from the foundation by the proprietor, Mr. William Wolfenden. The building is now the leading architectural feature of Kingussie proper. Externally it is elegant, and internally it is admitted by all possessed of knowledge in such matters to be one of the best equipped and most comfortable in the Highlands. Mr. Wolfenden is a great gatherer of local and general curios, and his collection, distributed over the finest suites of rooms, are a source of much interest and attraction. Near to Wolfenden's hotel Provost Campbell has had a large block erected, the upper part of which is a Temperance Hotel. Additions to and structural alterations

upon the Royal Hotel (Mr. D. Macpherson), have been made, while the Post Office, now one of the most important in the Highlands, has had its working space much extended. The hotel, situated in a somewhat retired, but a particularly well-chosen and advantageous position at the west end of the town, that used to be known as "Pullar's," was, when Mrs. Pullar retired in 1903, taken possession of by its owner, Mr. Baillie, who is also proprietor of the town and estate of Kingussie.

NEW TENANT OF DUKE OF GORDON HOTEL.

The name of the hotel, which has been in existence since the early part of last century, has now been changed to "The Duke of Gordon," which was its name for years after its erection by the last Duke of Gordon.

In April of this year, 1905, when this edition of the "Guide" was passing through the press the interesting fact became known that Mr. Baillie had just sold the finely-situated and popular old hostelry from its foundation, together with the extensive range of stables, coach-house, garden, and ornamental grounds, to Mr. William Wolfenden, proprietor of Wolfenden's Star Hotel, Kingussie, and judging from that gentleman's energy, ability, and superior business capacity, important developments may be pretty confidently expected in connection with old historic "Duke of Gordon" hotel.

NEW DISTILLERY.

Among other buildings erected during the past few years is the very large and important Speyside Distillery, one of the most extensive in the north.

THE SANATORIUM.

In the early part of 1901, there was opened in Glen-Gynack, near the town, a Sanatorium for the open-air treatment of pulmonary consumption.

GOLF, BOWLING, TENNIS, CURLING, &c.

Some years ago a fine bowling-green was constructed within a minute's walk of the centre of the town, and this centre of attraction to visitors has since been supplemented by a tennis court, which is a no less popular place of resort. To meet the growing popularity of golf, a club has recently been formed in Kingussie, with a beautifully-situated course, in Glen-Gynack, within half-a-mile from the village.

Kingussie and vicinity number among the inhabitants many enthusiastic masons and curlers. The former have erected a neat hall, especially for their own purpose, in King Street; while the brethren of the broom have recently acquired a capital curling pond not far from the High Street.

AUCTION MART.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, & Co., Ltd., Perth, have established an Auction Mart close to the Railway Station. Sales are held three times a year, and very large numbers of live stock, especially sheep, change owners at these.

RAILWAY AND COACH TRAVELLING.

The Highland Railway Company give an excellent service of trains in each direction. Mail coaches between Kingussie and Tulloch Station, on the West Highland Railway, arrive and depart daily, there being two conveyances each way every week-day for some months in the summer and autumn seasons, with well-appointed conveyances and drivers of experience. The town, also, is specially well off in the matter of hiring establishments.

KINGUSSIE RAILWAY STATION.

To cope with the increasing summer traffic, the Highland Railway Company recently erected handsome new station offices with a commodious north-going platform, having a verandah extending to a length of 209 feet, and surpassed by no station

on their system. It is within a minute's walk of the hotels, the banks, the post office, and the starting place of the Lochaber Royal Mail and passenger coaches. Kingussie Station Railway Refreshment Rooms are now-a-days of special importance to travellers, particularly by the early morning trains from the south, as, by pre-arrangement with guards, conductors, and other railway officials, breakfast and other baskets are prepared and ready to be handed into the carriage at the station, so that passengers do not require to move from their seats.

KINGUSSIE HOTELS, BANKS, CHURCHES, DOCTORS, &c.

Star Hotel, William Wolfenden, proprietor; Duke of Gordon Hotel, proprietor, W. Wolfenden, purchased April, 1905; Royal Hotel, proprietor, Duncan Macpherson; Temperance Hotel, lessee, Mrs. Macpherson; Refreshment Rooms at Railway Station; Tea Rooms, James Grant, baker, High Street; Tea Rooms, Spey Street, Mrs. M'Neil.

Places of Worship—Established Church, United Free Church, Free Church, Roman Catholic Chapel, Free Presbyterians, Scottish Episcopalian Church—the last-named open only in the summer and autumn seasons.

Banks—Caledonian Bank, Limited; British Linen Bank.

Post and Telegraph Offices—High Street, West End.

Hiring Establishments—Star Hotel, and Macfarlane's, Station Road.

Resident Doctors—Dr. Orchard, Spey Street; Dr. de Watteville, East Terrace.

Druggists (2)—West End and centre High Street.

Circulating Library—George A. Crerar, printer and stationer, tobacconist, King Street.

Hair-Cutting and Shampooing Room—Crerar's Library.

Permanent Library—In Victoria Hall.

Reading-Room—In Victoria Hall.

Masonic Lodge—King Street.

Oddfellows—St. Columba Lodge.

There are, of course, shops for groceries, clothing, and general merchandise, ironmongery, bakers, butchers, fishmongers, tailors, bootmakers, blacksmith, plumbers, cycle shops and fitters, woollen factory, meal mill, and so on.

DISTRICT HOTELS, &c.

Newtonmore Village—Newtonmore Hotel, Balavil Hotel, and Temperance Hotel, Coffee Room; Post and Telegraph Office near centre of village; Established and United Free Church services; Cycle Fitting Shop; usual shops and tradesmen.

Laggan District—Loch Laggan Hotel, 18 miles (for angling on loch), also Post and Telegraph Office not far from hotel; Drumgask Hotel, Laggan Bridge; Post and Telegraph Office, do.; Established and United Free Churches, do.; Roman Catholic Chapel near at hand; groceries and usual country tradesmen. Resident Doctor at Craigville, Balgown.

Dalwhinnie—Loch Ericht Hotel, 13 miles (for angling on loch); Post and Telegraph Office; Established Church; general merchant.

Insh Village (4 miles from Kincaig Station and 5 from Kingussie)—Hotel; Post and Telegraph Office; Groceries; Religious Services Sunday Evenings.

Feshie Bridge (1 mile from Kincaig Station)—Post Office; Telegraph Office at Kincaig.

Kincaig Station—Post and Telegraph Office; 2 General Merchants, Tailoring, Ladies' Dressmaking, Shoemaker, Blacksmith, and Carpenter; Golf Course; Free and U.F. Churches; Insh Parish Church and Alvie Parish Hall at hand, fortnightly, in evenings.

Loch Alvie—Alvie Parish Church; Lynwilg Hotel and Posting House, 2 miles from Aviemore Station, 4 from Kincaig and 10 from Kingussie.

Aviemore—Hotel (large new); Temperance Hotel and private hotel; Established Church; Post and Telegraph Office;

General Merchants, Butcher, Carpenter, Shoemaker, Blacksmith (at Inverdrue).

Rothiemurchus—Established Church near the Doune (3 miles from Aviemore Station); United Free Church at Inverdrue.

GOLF COURSES, &c.

Kingussie—Course in Glen-Gynack, near town; Bowling Green and Tennis Court, off Spey Street; Curling Pond.

Newtonmore Village—Course of 18 holes; Curling Pond.

Insh Village—Course of 9 holes.

Kincraig Station—Course of 9 holes.

Dalwhinnie—Course of 9 holes.

Aviemore—Course of 9 holes.

Balavil House—Private Course of 9 holes.

There are some other Courses connected with Shooting Lodges.

Applications for particulars to Secretaries at respective addresses.

WALKS ROUND KINGUSSIE.

For the benefit of ladies, invalids, and elderly persons who cannot undertake extended pedestrian excursions, it may be stated that there are several delightful walks and enticing spots for pic-nics in the vicinity of Kingussie.

Gynack Glen and Loch.—One of the most pleasant and most favoured of these walks is northwards along Glen-Gynack, through which runs the stream of that name, over many a rock and precipice, and through many a pool in which the trout may be seen disporting themselves. Some parts of the glenlet are quite romantic in their beauty, and the walk of three miles to the top will amply reward the labours of the pedestrian. The fine new Sanatorium and the Golf Course are on the way. Lying between two hills at the top of the ravine is Loch Gynack, a solitary sheet of water about a mile in circumference,

and at an altitude of 1050 feet. Some little distance to the north-east are Breakray Wells, from which Kingussie draws its water supply, through pipes for a distance of three miles. Immediately to the north begin to swell up the hills of the Monaliadh range, which extend nearly to Inverness.

Craigbeg and Monument.—From the summit of this pine-clad eminence, 1593 feet, situated immediately to the north-west of the town, an excellent view of the Grampians and the Monaliadh hills, and of the lower valley of Badenoch, may be obtained—the Spey lazily traversing the centre of the extensive haughs, looking on a fine sunshiny day like a thread of silver in the expanse of green. On the top of the hill there is a cairn erected to the memory of the fifth and last Duke of Gordon, at one time lord of Badenoch.

Ruins of Ruthven Castle.—An object that is certain to attract the attention of the stranger, if he casts his eye southwards while proceeding to the town from the station, is a grey pile of ruins surmounting a conical green mound, three-quarters of a mile distant on the south side of the Spey. This is locally called Ruthven Castle; but, in reality, the ruins are those of a barracks erected by the English Government during the times of the Scottish Rebellions. Some reference was made to the pile when speaking of the “Wolfe of Badenoch.” It is supposed that either on the site now occupied by the ruins or in the immediate vicinity stood the seat of the Comyns, first lords of Badenoch in 1230, and 150 years afterwards the stronghold of “The Wolfe.” In olden times it was thought that the mound was wholly artificial. Although the original Ruthven Castle might have been the residence of the lords of Badenoch, it seems to have been rebuilt or added to by different parties, one of these being an Earl of Huntly about 1590.

After the rebellion of 1715 the Castle was purchased by the Government, and a spacious barracks erected. In August, 1745, the soldiers quartered here joined General Cope while on his route to Inverness, leaving only a sergeant and a dozen men, who in September thereafter maintained the barracks

against 200 rebels. In 1746, after a gallant resistance by the small garrison, the place was taken by a corps of the Highland army, after three days cannonading, and burned to the ground. Here the Highlanders rallied after Culloden, with a determination to persevere in the contest; and here they received from Prince Charlie orders to disperse and provide for themselves. Near to the ruins are the remains of what is supposed to have been a Roman Camp. Ruthven Castle is on the Invereshie estate of Sir George Macpherson Grant.

Cave of Raitt.—On the brow of a green slope on the left of the highway, two miles north-east of Kingussie, on the estate of Mr. Macpherson of Balavil, there is another object which all visitors to Kingussie make a point of visiting. This is an extensive cave dug out of the earth, and at one time supposed by persons learned in such matters to be a Pictish house. The late Principal Sir David Brewster, who was married to one of the famous "Ossian" Macpherson's daughters, on coming to know of the existence of this interesting local object, gave orders to have it thoroughly cleared out, and the examination made showed that the excavation formed a long subterraneous cave in the form of a crescent, narrow at the entrance, but gradually extending until it is 7 feet wide and about the same in height, the total length being about 80 feet. The "Uaimh Mhor," or "great cave," has its sides faced with stones and roofed in by gradually contracting the side walls and joining them with large flattish stones. There are several curious local traditions with regard to the purposes which the cave was intended to serve. One of these has it that the place was excavated in a single night by a number of banditti, and the *debris* carried to the Spey. Over the entrance was erected a hovel, inhabited by two old women of ugly mien and evil repute, and in consequence this robbers' nest remained undiscovered for years. According to tradition it was found out in a curious way. The gang having inflicted some wrong on a member of the Macpherson clan, named MacMhick Eoghan, he determined to find out their place of concealment, and have them subjected to punishment.

With this object in view he disguised himself as a beggar, and proceeding to the hovel of the old women secured admission by pretending to be suffering great pain. He was allowed to lie down in a litter of straw in a corner. The women during the night employed themselves baking oat cakes. As these were ready they were placed in the bottom of a cupboard and instantly disappeared. Suspecting that the robber band were concealed in a cave below the house, the member of the Clan Mhuriach (the Macphersons) in the morning summoned assistance, and the savages were "smoked" out, to be destroyed one by one. During the eighteenth century the cave was again the haunt of a gang of robbers. For an outrage on a cattle drover, the country people arose in their wrath, determined to bring the offenders to justice. Two men were apprehended, and suffered the extreme penalty of the law at Inverness in May, 1773, and the rest of the party, with their leader, only escaped the same punishment by having fled out of the kingdom.

KINGUSSIE OLD CHURCHYARD AND "ST. COLUMBA" MONASTERY.

To those who delight in "meditation among the tombs," attraction will be found in the peaceful old churchyard of Kingussie, situated a minute's walk from the Cross along Mill Road to the north of the town. This secluded spot is invested with some historical interest, as upon it there once stood a Monastery dedicated to St. Columba, by whom, according to tradition, the church was actually founded. The priory built by the Earl of Huntly, about the year 1490, occupies, it is believed, the site of the old church of St. Columba; and in course of improvements recently made on the churchyard, a portion of one of the gables of the chapel of the Monastery was distinctly traced. These improvements were carried out chiefly through the instrumentality of the late Mr. A. Macpherson, F.S.A., Solicitor and Bank Agent, Kingussie.

Amongst those whose remains have found a last resting-place in this old burial-ground is Captain John Macpherson of Ballachroan—the “*Oaichear Dubh*” or “Black Officer” as he was called—whose dreadful death, along with that of several others, while hunting in Gaick forest on 5th January, 1800—Christmas old style, 1799, forms an epoch in Highland chronology. Particulars about “*Call Ghaig*” or the “Gaick Catas-trophe,” which in these superstitious times was ascribed to supernatural agency, will be given subsequently. There are other two churchyards in Kingussie.

WALKING AND DRIVING EXCURSIONS.

Having said so much about the general and characteristic features of the country, it is necessary now to indicate the principal points of attraction to strangers, and draw out a “plan of campaign,” by following which they may dispose of their time to the greatest advantage. Pedestrians are not greatly hampered in their movements, and can roam at their will withersoever their fancy leads them. We shall therefore sketch the principal carriage drives in the district, and briefly describe the objects of most interest along the routes. By accompanying us in imagination the visitor who prefers to go in for pedestrian exercise shall have little difficulty in deciding at what points on the driving routes he may strike out to bye-paths leading to lovely scenes that are practically inaccessible to conveyances.

Of the more extended walks and drives from Kingussie the principal are :—

North Side of the Spey to the east—Balavil House, Loch Insh, Dunachton Lodge, Kinraig Station, Loch Alvie, Kinrara, Lynwilg, and Aviemore Station.

South of Spey, to the east, are—Loch-an-Eilan, Rothiemurchus, Invereshie, Feshie Bridge, Insh Village; to either of these last four places the distance is shortened by between 2 and 3 miles by taking the north road to Kinraig and crossing the

Spey by Kincaig Bridge (Boat of Insh). To the south also are two of the most popular resorts of tourists and summer visitors—namely, Glenfeshie and Gaick.

West and South-west are—Newtonmore, Glentruim, Loch Ericht (Dalwhinnie), Craighdu, Cluny Castle (the historic seat of the chiefs of the Clan Macpherson), Laggan, Loch Laggan, and Adverikie Castle.

The main points of interest in connection with these places will be found noted further on.

TABLE OF DISTANCES.

The following table shows the distances of various places from Kingussie:—

KINGUSSIE TO	Miles.	KINGUSSIE TO	Miles.
Balavil House, - - -	3	Glentromie Lodge, - - -	6
Dunachton House, - - -	5	Bhran Bridge, - - -	11
Loch Insh, - - -	5	Gaick, - - -	14
Kincaig Station, - - -	6	Newtonmore, - - -	3
Alvie Lodge, - - -	8	Glentruim, - - -	8
Kinrara House, - - -	10	Phones Lodge, - - -	8
Loch Alvie, - - -	9	Dalwhinnie Hotel, - - -	14
Lynwilg Hotel, - - -	10	Crubenmore Lodge, - - -	9
Aviemore Station, - - -	12	Craighdu, - - -	6
Tromie Bridge (for Gaick)	3	Cluny Castle, - - -	9
Glentromie, or Glenfeshie, }		Laggan Bridge, - - -	10
Milton Cottage, - - -	4	Drumgask Hotel, - - -	11
Insh Village, - - -	5	Strathmashie Lodge, - - -	13
Insh Manse (for Glenfeshie), -	8	Inverpattock Falls, - - -	16
Invereshie House, - - -	9	Glenshero Lodge, - - -	15
Feshie Bridge, - - -	9	Sherramore Lodge, - - -	15
The Doune (Rothiemurchus), -	12	Loch Laggan Hotel, - - -	-
Loch-an-Eilan, - - -	14	Ardverikie Castle, - - -	20
Glenfeshie (by Tromie Bridge),	11	Aberarder Lodge, - - -	17
„ (by Manse of Insh),	15		

BRIDGES ON SPEY.

Bridges on the Spey will be found at Garvamore, Laggan Post Office, Newtonmore, Kingussie, Kincaig, Iosal or Spey-bank (footbridge mile east of Kincaig Station), and Aviemore.

Having submitted these details, we shall now proceed to give descriptive sketches of the various tours.

EXCURSION No. 1.—17 miles.

KINGUSSIE to BALAVIL HOUSE, LOCH INSH, KINCRAIG STATION, INSH HISTORIC CHURCH, LOCH ALVIE, AVIEMORE, LOCH-AN-EILAN.

Leaving Kingussie by the Perth and Inverness highway on the north side of the Spey we proceed eastwards. We pass on the right the *Court-House*, *Drill Hall*, and *Established Church*, and on an eminence near the railway the *Established Church Manse*. Roadway on left opposite that going to the manse leads to an elevated spot above the houses known as the *Rathe of Easter Kingussie*, where were the "Standing Stones," within which the Wolfe of Badenoch held court, and cited the Bishop of Moray to show his titles to certain lands. After entering the clump of firs further on, road on the left goes to new farmhouse of *Kerrow*. Midway through the wood pass *Curling Pond*, now disused since a new one was secured in the woods higher up the rising ground. The cultivated land north of the milestone is known as *Laggan*, at the top of which tradition has it there once resided a noted witch, blood-curdling tales of whose uncanny doings used to be recited for the delectation of natives in more unsophisticated times. From this point onwards a free sweep is obtained of a considerable section of the Grampian range, the Gaick and Glenfeshie hills being directly opposite. Pass here *the Three Bridges*, which, it is said, Thomas-the-Rhymer predicted would at some time span this water way. The viaduct furthest off carried the Inverness and Perth road in pre-railway days.

ALVIE PARISH AND PLACE NAME.

At Three Bridges the parish of Kingussie is left, and the parish of *Alvie* entered. *Alvie* is by some supposed to derive its name from Loch Alvie, to be noticed afterwards, who explain

the name as connected with the flower, *ealbaidh*, which is Gaelic for water lily or St. John's wort, a plant which grows in the lake or on the surrounding bank. Others refer the name of the loch to *eala-i*, swan's isle loch; but there is no Gaelic word *i* for an island, and the phonetics do not suit. Shaw, the historian of the province of Moray, says, Alvie is a "parsonage dedicated to St. Drostan," and Mr. A. Macbain, LL.D., Inverness, suggests the 6th century Irish saint and bishop called Ailbe, or later, Ailbhe.

MR. MACPHERSON'S BALAVIL ESTATE.

Here, at the Three Bridges, there is entered upon the property of *Balavil*, belonging to Mr. Charles Julien Brewster Macpherson, which the highway traverses for the next $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Two or three hundred yards onward those who wish to visit the *Cave of Raitt*, already referred to, leave the road by a wicket-gate on the left, and ascend to the green eminence above, near the summit of which the "Uaimh Mor" can be easily found. The cave has already been described (page 24). The Gaelic for Raitt is *Rât*, which means a house, as it had to be built for protective purposes in olden times. There were three Raitts—Easter, Wester, and Middle,—all of which were at one time populated and under cultivation.

The next place on the left is the hamlet of *Lynchat* (in Gaelic *Bail-a-Chait* or Cat-town, instead of Cat's-field, *Loinn-a-Chait*.) Several neat houses have been recently erected. During a great flood in the Spey some years ago, the waters overflowed the bank, and rushing through the *cattle creep* below the railway, inundated part of Lynchat, the eastmost house on the roadside having several feet of water in some of the rooms, while the roadway eastwards for a distance along was impassable for days, either by pedestrian or conveyance!

On the left is the farm buildings connected with Balavil and Chapelpark; also the lodge of *Chapelpark*. The name in Gaelic signifies *Pairc-an-t-Seipeil*, derived from a Chapel and Churchyard that once were there, and known as "Chapel of Ma Lauc,"

an Irish Saint. The place was at one time called *Tillie-Sow*, from an inn which once existed, whose entrance door was surmounted by the motto *Tadhailibh so*—"Visit here" or "Stay here." Two or three hundred yards further on, topping a knoll to the left, is an object that is surrounded by many interesting associations ; but which, being almost obscured by intervening trees, is likely to escape the observation of the casual passer-by. This is a handsome *marble obelisk*, erected to the memory of a man over whose chief literary work has taken place some of the most prolonged and fierce controversies of the past one hundred and fifty years, and about which disputes are even yet by no means at an end.

MACPHERSON, OF "OSSIAN'S POEMS" CELEBRITY.

The person whom the monument commemorates was James Macpherson, of "Ossian's Poems" fame, concerning whom a well-known Celtic and general scholar has written :—"Though his 'Ossian' is a forgery from a historical standpoint, and a purely original work from a literary point of view ; yet it is to him that Celtic literature owes its two greatest benefits—its being brought prominently before the European world, and especially the preservation of the old literature of the Gael, as presented in traditional ballads and poems, and in the obscure Gaelic manuscripts which were fast disappearing, through ignorance and carelessness." Beside the monument to the memory of "Ossian" Macpherson, is the burying-ground of the Balavil family of the present time, the first member of whom to be interred therein being Col. Brewster Macpherson, father of the present proprietor. Pass on left "approach" to mansion-house, and cross here the *Balavil Burn*, which (according to an old tradition) Thomas the Rhymer predicted would, in certain eventualities, flow with blood. Further up its course, past the steading and the gardens, the stream brawls through a rocky and picturesque ravine, and beyond the woods it yields good trout fishing in favourable weather.

Immediately beyond the bridge on the left,

BALAVIL MANSION-HOUSE,

the family residence of Mr. C. J. B. Macpherson, proprietor of Balavil estate, bursts upon the view, beautifully situated on the face of a green slope, adorned with ancient trees, and commanding a view of meadow, wood, water, hill, and mountain that is not surpassed in the Central Highlands, or in few other parts of Scotland either. The house was at first, and for more than a century, called "Belleville," from the French for "beautiful town." Old Gaelic-speaking inhabitants of the district spoke of it as *Bail'-a'-bhile*, "the town on the brae-top," which is an exact description of the situation. The name has now been changed by the present owner to Balavil, which appears to be really the true Gaelic name of the place, and is, in any case, more in accord with its position and Highland surroundings. In the Venetian style of architecture, the building has a palatial appearance. By a fire, which broke out on Christmas Eve, 1903, the Mansion-House was completely gutted. It has, in the interval, been entirely re-constructed on the most improved sanitary and other modern principles of house building, and both internally and externally is one of the finest in the Highlands. The house was erected by Macpherson of "Ossian's Poems" notoriety, and occupies, it is said, the site of Raitt's Castle, one of the residences of the Comyns, lords of Badenoch, in the 13th century. At a subsequent period, the estate, then called Raitt, came into possession of the powerful family, Mackintosh of Borlum; and in 1789 it was purchased by the James Macpherson aforesaid, who changed the name to Belleville. "Ossian" Macpherson was born at Ruthven, near Kingussie, in 1738, and for a time occupied the humble position of teacher of a school at Ruthven, on the opposite side of the Spey. Subsequently he occupied many important positions, being a man of much culture and attainments. He died in 1796, and his remains were interred in Westminster Abbey. The late Sir David Brewster, Principal of Edinburgh University, married a daughter of James Macpherson, and their descendants

inherited the estate, the late Col. Brewster, father of the present laird assuming the name of Macpherson.

Opposite Balavil, on the south side of the Spey, is seen *Old Milton House*, or Milton Cottage, as it more frequently goes by, one of the residential mansions on Sir George Macpherson Grant's Invereshie estate, and now occupied by Mr. John Macpherson Grant, yr. of Ballindalloch and Invereshie; and further east is seen the *Village of Insh*.

EXTENSIVE MEADOWS.

As the traveller proceeds eastwards he cannot fail to be struck with the great extent of beautiful haugh or meadow land that opens out before his gaze. The valley extends from Kingussie to Loch Insh, a distance of 4 miles in length, while the breadth in some places is nearly 2 miles. Through the centre the Spey flows with extreme sluggishness, its course being traced by the high embankments that wind along on each side. On these meadows an immense quantity of *natural grass* is cut and preserved every year.

SPEY IN SPATE: INLAND SEA.

During great spates in winter and spring the Spey sometimes overflows the embankments, and, inundating the meadows of the valley lying between Kingussie and the east end of Loch Insh, presents the aspect of a landlocked lake six miles long by from one to two broad. The embankments occasionally give way under the immense pressure they have to sustain. The Highland Railway skirts the north side of these meadows along an embankment about 12 feet in height. When the water inundates the meadows it rises up both sides of the railway embankment, and on more than one occasion has threatened to overtop; and when the winds were high and the ice heavy, the state of matters used to give no little concern to the railway officials. Portions of the highway which is being traversed are occasionally submerged to such an extent as to be impassable by pedestrians, the water rising sometimes to a height of two

and three feet. *Lochandhu*, a little loch situated in the meadows below Balavil, is said to give the name to Sir Thomas Dick Lauder's novel so entitled.

Progressing from Balavil House, the eastern "approach" is reached, and here the road leads to the farmhouse of *Croftcarnoch*, some distance beyond the top of the brae summit.

OLD INVERNESS AND PERTH ROAD.

At this point it may be of interest to state that the Inverness and Perth highway in olden times ran along the base of the hill north of both Balavil House and Croftcarnoch, leaving the line of the present road at a part which will be indicated two miles further on. The route must have been most difficult to traverse, the country being full of howes and heights.

THE MACKINTOSH DUNACHTON ESTATE.

Half-a-mile east of Balavil porter's lodge the traveller enters on Dunachton portion of the Mackintosh of Mackintosh estate in Alvie, another portion of his property being on the south side of the Spey, but also in the same parish. The next houses to be reached are at a spot now known as *Meadowside*, but which was in other days called *Coilintuie*, from the Gaelic *Coill-an-t-Suidhe*, the wood of the sitting or resting, or *Cùil-an-t-Shuidh*, the recess of the Suidh. At a spot a little way up the ravine there farmed at one time, as also at Croftcarnoch, one of the best-known men in the Central Highlands in days before the railway. This was the late *James Haldane*, the first *public carrier* between Inverness and Perth, whose difficulties in conducting the work during the storms of winter for many years, and the numerous adventures, amusing and serious, that he had on the road might furnish material for a very interesting volume. At the end of a cottage further on a cart road takes by a short way to the farmhouse of *Dunachton*, some distance above. Here from forty years back there was a crofter and cottar population, but now only the one inhabited house exists.

Proceeding some distance the eastern extremity of the great stretch of meadow land, which has been skirted for five miles, is reached, and at a point where the road ascends slightly, the first view is obtained of a sheet of water a mile in length by three-quarters of a mile broad. This is

“LOCH INSH : WHICH IS LOVELY,”

to use the words of Her Majesty, the late Queen Victoria, in her “Journal.” Dr. Skene in his *Celtic Scotland* tries to identify Loch Insh with the Loogdæ which Adamnan, the biographer of Columba, mentions the Saint as having fallen in with while passing over Drum Albin, and, founding upon this, considers that about Dunachton, in the vicinity, was fought in 729 the battle of Monitcarno, between King Angus and Nechtan, King of the Picts, which resulted in the defeat of the latter, and the establishment of the former on the throne of Pictland. The Lochdæ mentioned is now identified with Loch Lochy.

Loch Insh contains salmon, trout, enormous pike and eels, and is abundantly stocked with those lovely and scarce fishes called char. The fishing on either side is leased along with Dunachton and Invereshie shootings respectively. Net fishing used to be carried on two or three times a week from the middle of spring to the close of the season, but in order that salmon might have better freedom to distribute themselves over the rivers of the district, the proprietors, Sir George Macpherson Grant and The Mackintosh, do not allow the nets to be employed, this being by arrangement with other riparian proprietors.

SALMON, TROUT, AND CHAR.

The yield was in some years very productive, hundreds of salmon having been landed during the last season that the fishing was open. As many as 47 salmon have been taken out in a single haul of the net on the Dunachton side, and upwards of 60 were once landed in a “shot” at Invereshie. Small-meshed nets were not latterly in use, and the number of trout

and char landed was in consequence insignificant. But thirty years ago and backwards many dozens of the finest fish used to be landed every fishing day, and from two "shots," drawn one after the other on the same spot below Dunachton Lodge, the writer saw taken something like 15 or 20 dozen char. Angling on the loch is reserved, but indeed although boats were obtainable, a day's hard labour would probably meet with a very inadequate reward, as the trout are extremely dour, and char never seem to "take" at all.

DUNACHTON LODGE—PICTISH KING'S FORT.

Overlooking the western end of Loch Insh, and fronting the entrance to Glenfeshie, is Dunachton Lodge, the Badenoch residence of The Mackintosh. Erected some forty years ago, it is a fine type of a modern shooting lodge, although from the colour of the slate, when looked at from a distance, few would think that the mansion is of modern construction. It is a peculiarity of Dunachton Lodge that, with the exception of the freestone and iron, almost every article of material required in its construction—stone, wood, lime, and slate—was obtained on the Mackintosh's own ground in the vicinity. The slate is of a dun, yellowish colour, which gives to the building that appearance of age that the designers intended. An old residence of the Dunachton Mackintoshes stood on the same site, and indeed was incorporated with the new building. Dunachton in Gaelic is *Dun-Neachdainn*, the hill fort of Nechtan. Who Nechtan was is not known, although tradition has it that he was a Pictish King. Dunachton first appears in history in the time of the Wolfe of Badenoch, Dunachton being mentioned in 1380.

GREAT DECREASE OF TROUT.

The great decrease in the number of trout caught from rivers and streams flowing into the upper reaches of the Spey has been in recent years most marked. Twenty to forty years ago the merest tyro in rod fishing could, in favourable weather, feel

assured of a fair basket ; nowadays even the most expert angler may, and often does, come in with practically an empty creel. Many local people of experience are of opinion that the stoppage of small-meshed net fishing in Loch Insh is somewhat to blame for the decrease of trout, their argument being that pike and great black trout have, in consequence, so much increased in numbers that they devour in multitudes the common trout, that in winter find refuge in Loch Insh and in spring and summer disperse themselves over the various country rivers. That these voracious monsters consume thousands of salmon smolts in their passage to the sea cannot, of course, be doubted. In any case, the continuous decrease of trout in local hill waters is undeniable. But probably a very serious agent in the destruction of common trout in local streams is the goosander. Until within recent years this bird was practically unknown in Badenoch—certainly unknown in the summer time. Now they come, winter and summer, in scores. On the highest hill burns they can be seen with their wonderful spade-like beaks, “scooping” the trout from their stone, rock, and bank fastnesses by the scores and the hundreds. There is no escaping them. Even salmon and trout on the spawning beds cannot escape their greed. They have been often observed to watch and devour the spawn as it is emitted from the fish, and after the ova has been deposited and covered they have been seen to rip up the gravel, and devour the newly deposited spawn.

DUNACHTON DUNGEON AND MACKINTOSH'S COURT-HOUSE.

Within the old house of Dunachton was an old *dungeon* or “keep” which in these degenerate and utilitarian days has been transformed into a wine and beer cellar. The lodge occupies a fine situation, commanding an excellent view of Loch Insh and the Grampians. To the west of the house is a knoll called *Tom-a-Mhoid* or *Court Hill*, on which, doubtless, the Mackintoshes of bye-gone days frequently dispensed justice in the summary manner that was customary in those times. When the late Mr. Fraser-Mackintosh, LL.D., F.S.A., Scot., was Commissioner

on the Mackintosh estates many years since, he took great pleasure in tracing the connection of the Mackintoshes with the estate, and wrote a small volume on the subject full of historical, antiquarian, and archæological interest. Some years ago a peculiar *stone slab* was found on the grounds bearing some quaint figures and hieroglyphics, and this has now been fixed in the ground near the lodge. At the base of the hill below the lodge there is a very ancient churchyard, the walls of which were placed in much-needed repair by Mr. Fraser-Mackintosh, and being now entirely draped with ivy, this little "God's acre" forms a prominent feature of the park. The Chapel was dedicated to St. Drostan, and is mentioned in 1380. At a point a few yards from above the Chapel started the old Inverness and Perth road a century ago, a walk along which, in these days, gives much interest to visitors as it does to natives.

Immediately after passing the churchyard the road crosses the *Alt-Mohr* or "big" burn of Dunachton, which some miles further up yields plenty of trout of a small size. At the top of the wood two miles up there is a fine gorge well worth visiting.

A MAGNIFICENT PANORAMA.

Here we may give to the lover of scenery a little "tip" that may not be generally known to the people of Badenoch themselves. Rising northwards from Dunachton Lodge the background terminates in a green eminence of no great elevation called "*The Cluanach*." This mound can be seen from the highway, and the journey to its summit can easily be accomplished in half-an-hour from the road or Kincaig Station. Insignificant in altitude although it appears to be, and actually is, it commands the finest view that can be obtained of the eastern valley of Badenoch, and from the south-western promontory on a fine summer's day the eye is feasted with a diversity of scenic beauties than which few lovelier can be found in the Highlands. In the southern background a magnificent and uninterrupted view is obtained of the giants of

the Grampians from near Blair-Atholl to Glenmore, and even to the Cromdale hill in Strathspey, including Craigmhigachidh, 2429 feet, topped behind by the Ghealcharn, which is in turn dominated by Scorán-dhu-Mhor, 3658 feet, flanked on the east by Braeriach, 4248 feet, Cairngorm, 4048 feet, and Ben Macdhuì, 4296 feet. In the early days of last century the Cluanach was a crofter holding, and a descendant of the then occupier, still living, tells that his father used to relate that on a fine calm morning he could, from the western corner, discern smoke rising from a number of smuggler whisky stills. The remains of one can be seen to this day at no far distance.

KING HAROLD : A TRADITION AND A QUERY.

The first hill behind the Cluanach, rising close to the Dunachton Burn, is named in Gaelic *Crag Rìgh Harailt*, or the Rock of King Harold. On the south face of this crag there is said to exist a mound resembling a grave, covered with a slab bearing some hieroglyphics. Harold is a Scandanavian name, but who this King Harold was, what brought him here, or whether there ever was such a person is not known. Curiously enough there is on the opposite side of the burn a hill known as *Cragan-nan-Saigde*, or Hill of the Arrows, whereon a sanguinary battle is said to have been fought in which King Harold, if there ever was such a personage, may have been slain. At the base of the eastern slope there is a strongly impregnated well which the ordnance survey map names as Ruigh-na-Ruaige, the Stretch of the Retreat, or Ruigh-an-Roig, as it was known to the old native inhabitants. The word "retreat" would seem to have connection with a conflict of some kind, and reverting to what has been said about the battle of Monitcarno or Monadhcarnoch, there is curiously enough a Croft-carnoch not far distant from the scene of the alleged battle.

Returning from this digression to Dunachton Burn near the lodge and proceeding eastwards pass cottages transformed from a carding mill—*Dunachton Carding Mill*—a mill having existed here and in its vicinity since the early part of last century.

Road on left here takes to *Dunachton Farm*, already referred to, on the way to which there is a long disused meal mill, which had a busy time when this and other parts of the parish had a crofter population.

LEAULT : PATH TO DULNAN.

A quarter of a mile onwards road on left takes to houses of *Leault*, or half burn, whence there is road, partly cart track and partly bridle path, which leads for eight or ten miles to the river *Dulnan*, far back in the Monaliadh, whence again the mountaineer can cross the ridge to the watershed of the rivers Findhorn and Nairn, and so on to Inverness, a distance which is often accomplished in a day.

KINCRAIG HOUSE.

Having passed Leault road for a short distance, Kincaig House is seen finely situated on the left at the base of a rocky-faced hill called the *Suidhe*, or seat. Kincaig House is now occupied by the farm tenant of Kincaig, but it used at one time to form the autumn quarters of the sportsmen before Dunachton lodge was built, and is still let in the season with Kincaig Shooting.

ALVIE PARISH HALL : SOUDAN MEMORIAL.

At the junction of roads on right is an evangelistic hall connected with the Parish Church of Alvie. Evening services are held on alternate Sundays. By permission of the parish minister the building is available on week days for other public purposes connected with the parish of Alvie, but no political meetings are allowed. In recent years some most successful concerts for benevolent purposes have been given here by *Mr. Henschel*, the eminent pianist, musical composer, and conductor, who has for a long time spent his summer and autumn holidays in the district, and with the late Mrs. Henschel the well-known

vocal artiste, and Miss Henschel, a most promising pianiste and violinist (now Mrs. Onslow Ford), has frequently given gratuitous services. Facing the road is a small monument to soldiers killed at Atbara, in General Kitchener's Soudan campaign, which resulted in the defeat, overthrow, and death of the Mahdi. The memorial was erected at the expense of Mr. Henschel as an expression of the pleasure and enjoyment he had derived from residence in Alvie in successive years.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

In an *annexe* to the hall a public subscription library for the parishes of Alvie and Insh is conducted during the winter months. It contains an excellent collection of books in general literature.

KINCRAIG STATION: SPEY BRIDGE.

At the hall, branching away to the right, is a road leading to Kincaig Station of the Highland Railway and a carriage bridge across the River Spey. By following the road there is reached the highway on the south side of the Spey, by which the return journey to Kingussie can be accomplished, or the drive or walk on the south side continued eastwards to Rothiemurchus, Loch-an-Eilan, and Aviemore Junction. The intersecting road is about three-quarters of a mile in length, and it will be convenient here to refer to places of interest on this short bit of turnpike.

KINCRAIG STATION AND HAMLET.

About 200 yards from the hall is the railway station, 77 miles from Perth, and 36 to Inverness by the direct railway from Aviemore Junction. Kincaig Station is considered to be one of the most prettily situated stations on the Highland Railway, the view from the platform being very fine, embracing Loch Insh, the River Spey, Invereshie mansion-house (Sir

George Macpherson Grant)—let with Invereshie Shootings,—the historic church of Insh, and a splendid stretch of the Grampians. Forty-five years ago there was neither railway station nor houses at this place. Now there is quite a little colony, several of the villas being equal to any seen along the line of railway. The post and telegraph work used to be transacted in the station, but the office was in 1901 removed to premises belonging to a merchant, below the railway. Adjoining the station is another general merchant's business, and close to the Post Office a boot and shoemaker's shop, a smithy, a joiner's, and a cycle hiring shop.

Spey Bridge is below the station. Until this bridge was constructed about thirty-five years ago communication between the two sides of the river was maintained by a ford and ferry boats. The house situated on the water side opposite the station was the ferry house, which was also an inn called Boat of Insh. For years after the railway was opened the station now called "Kincaig" went by the name of "Boat of Insh." Here, there is a 9-hole Golf Course close to the station.

QUEEN AT BOAT OF INSH—FERRYMAN ASTONISHED.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, September 4th, 1860, the ferryman encountered a dispensation in the form of a party of ladies and gentlemen who wished to be rowed o'er the Spey. Ferried across they duly were in the "big boat," and on landing one of the gentlemen inquired how much was to pay. This would at most be but a shilling or two, but into the ferryman's hand was placed two golden guineas, and with a smile and a good-day the munificent stranger disappeared, leaving the ferryman to congratulate himself upon his good fortune, and to wonder who the party could be. In due time it leaked out that they were the late Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort, who, with a few attendants, had that day travelled *incognito* from Balmoral across the Grampians by way of Glen Geldie and Glenfeshie on the way to Grantown. Writing of this tour in her "Journal" the Queen says:—"We

came upon Loch Insh, which is lovely, and of which I should have liked exceedingly to have taken a sketch. Some cattle were crossing a narrow strip of grass across the end of the loch nearest us, which really made a charming picture." Speaking of the ferry, the Queen proceeds:—"Walker, the police inspector, met us, but did not keep with us. He had been sent to order everything in a quiet way, without letting people suspect who we were; in this he entirely succeeded. The ferry was a very rude affair; it was like a boat or coble (a sketch is given), but we could only stand upon it, and it was moved at one end by two long oars, plied by the ferryman and Brown, and at the other end by a long sort of beam (locally called a "sting"), which Grant took in hand. A few seconds brought us over to the road, where there were two shabby vehicles, each with a pair of small and rather miserable horses, driven by a man from the box."

INSH PARISH CHURCH—WORSHIP FOR 1000 YEARS.

Romantically situated among gigantic trees on the mound overlooking the boat house and the Spey is the Parish Church and Churchyard of Insh.

The present edifice was rebuilt a few years ago, and is now internally one of the prettiest on the run of Spey. The Church which it replaced was in turn partly rebuilt about the beginning of last century; but it is believed that an ecclesiastical edifice of some kind had existed on the top of this eminence from the time of the Culdees, and that it was the only one in which continuous worship has been celebrated from the sixth century to the present time in Scotland. *Insh* is mentioned as *Inche* in the Moray Registrum in 1226, and also in 1380 and 1603. The name is derived from the bluff on which the Church is built, and which is in times of great floods in the Spey practically an island, or *innis*. Loch Insh takes its name from this place. Shaw, the historian of Moray, says the parish is a vicarage dedicated to "St. Ewan"; but, as the knoll on which the Church stands is called Tom Eunan, it is considered more

probable that the saint must have been Eonan or Adamnan, Columba's biographer in the seventh century.

THE CHURCH CULDEE CHAINED BELL.

Chained within the Church is a small bronze bell that is considered to be one of the finest relics of the Culdee worship, and to which there is attached many a pretty legend. According to tradition it was at one time carried away south by a party of marauders. Evidently grieving over its removal, the bell never could be silenced, but continued to cry "Tom Eunan," "Tom Eunan," as a child for its mamma. In some unexplained way it escaped from the thieves, took a "short cut" across the hills, and on coming above Glenfeshie, within sight of "Tom Eunan," it demonstrated the joy of its heart over the regaining of its freedom by executing what may be described as a series of brilliant break-downs on the way along the glen and Feshie side, the Drum wood, Balnespick (the ecclesiastical residence in connection with the Church), finishing up with a grand finale at the Church of Insh, whence it had been removed, the tintinnabulations thereat being so vigorous that the neighbourhood was aroused, and the interesting traveller welcomed home with true Highland rejoicings, then taken into the Church and chained like Prometheus! So at all events 'tis said, *argus mo s breug uam s e's breug hugam e!* As has been already stated the mound upon which the Church is situated is liable to become an island when the Spey is in great flood. The Parish Manse is about a mile distant on the south side of Loch Insh, and periodically the minister and the Insh portion of his congregation have been prevented by the submerged state of roads from reaching the Church. Early in 1901 the Badenoch District Committee of Inverness County Council decided to construct an embankment from the mound to the service road at Invereshie Home Farm, which would enable pedestrians to cross at all stages of the water, but this in times of great flood is still inadequate.

From the east end of Loch Insh the westward view is very beautiful—"a fairy scene," says an old writer. Just where the Spey emerges from the loch there is another romantic and beautifully wooded mound called "*Tom Dhu*," and some distance down the river is an island called "*An-t' Eilan Dubh*," or Black Island. The pedestrian will be well rewarded by walking along the north side of the river for some miles, or the whole distance of six, to Aviemore. Many fine glimpses of scenery, water, and land are found on the route. The river Feshie runs into the Spey from the south a short distance east of the Black Island. Here there is an excellent stretch of water for angling, salmon or trout, but the stranger who attempts to try his luck may encounter some difficulty with the gamekeepers, especially after the arrival of sportsmen. But civility and courtesy will certainly be met with civility and courtesy in return, and unless the restrictions are for the time absolute, the decent angler will not be subjected to annoyance. About a mile down from Kincaig station, by the river, is a footbridge by which Dalnavert and South Kinrara may be reached.

DRIVE EASTWARDS RESUMED.

Recrossing the Spey to the Alvie Hall we resume our tour eastwards towards Aviemore. After passing the hall two roads on left lead to Kincaig House and Farm Steading. In the "*Suidhe*" behind the house there are valuable limestone quarries, but they are not now worked.

At the burn beside the second approach the Mackintosh Estate terminates and

SIR JOHN RAMSDEN'S ALVIE ESTATE

begins. Sir John purchased the property from the Baillies of the north about forty years ago, and in the interval has had extensive improvements effected. When he came into possession the only wood on the property consisted of detached clumps of

birches, but many thousands of firs were planted and are now thriving plantations, in which numerous deer have taken lodgment, besides a great number of roe deer. The population here was at one time much greater. A fine shooting-lodge has been erected, but is not seen from the road.

Close to the first house that is come to is a smithy—Baldow Smiddy, *Baldow* being the name of the place. Next is the *United Free Church Manse* of Alvie, and then the (principal) *Public School* within the parish. The house nearest the road was at one time an inn, which formed a coaching stage early last century, and where horses were changed. Between this house and the manse there is a road that leads to *Balourie Farmhouse*, at the base of the rising ground, half-a-mile distant.

THE PICTS IN ALVIE.

Near Balourie is *Balchurn Farm-house*, In the 14th and 16th centuries these places were called Pitourie, Pitivery, Pettourye, Pettevie, Pitchurn, and Pettechærne. *Pet* or *pit* is Pictish for town, farm—etymologically represented by the Gaelic *cuid*, which has been changed to the modern Gaelic *baile*, the true native word. A short distance onward a road leads to the crofting hamlet of Speybank, where there is a footbridge on the Spey, Speybank or *Iosal Bridge*, leading to another portion of the parish of Alvie, south of the Spey, also owned by the Mackintosh. On the roadside, a little in advance on the right, is *United Free Church of Alvie*, claimed in March, 1905, by the Frees. Within the grounds is a grave, with massive headstone, in which are interred the remains of Alexander Fraser, for many years local factor and gamekeeper at Kinrara to the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, and also those of his wife. Mr. Fraser was largely instrumental in raising funds for the erection of the Church in 1851, and at his own request was buried within the grounds. The place is called *Milehead*, and here are a few houses. Road on left leads to Balourie and another to Balchurn. Some little way on there is come to the approach to

ALVIE LODGE,

Sir John Ramsden's large, elegant, residential mansion, let with the shootings. On the right, in passing onwards by the highway, the traveller will observe traces of a terribly destructive fire, which, some years ago, burned a large portion of the plantation. The next road on the left takes to the farms of *Easter* and *Wester Delfour*, in the vicinity of which there is a *Druidical Circle*. Pass on the left farm-house of *Dalraddy*. Dalraddy farm and grounds belong to Sir George Macpherson Grant, the only property he has got north of the Spey. In connection with Dalraddy there is a well-known local conundrum, with which youngsters used to be puzzled—

“Bha cailleach ann Dailradaidh
'S dh'ith i adag 's i marbh.”

which, being translated, means—

“There was a wife in Dalraddy
Who ate a haddock being dead.”

KINRARA—“BEAUTIFUL KINRARA.”

A carriage road on the right crossing the railway overhead and skirting Tor Alvie leads to Kinrara House, the property of the Duke of Richmond, a beautiful Highland seat of the old Dukes of Gordon when they were lords of Badenoch, and the favourite retreat of Jane Maxwell, the celebrated Duchess of Gordon, who so loved the charming spot that she gave orders to have her remains interred in a spot of her own choosing within the policies. It should be stated that the road is private, but carriages are not prohibited from entering, and the ground can be traversed, so that a fine view can be obtained of this most lovely of Highland seats without intruding upon the privacy of the lessee of the mansion and shooting. Traversing an excellent road for more than a mile among woods, through glades in which picturesque views can be obtained of the nearer spurs of the Grampians, the finely cultivated garden is passed on the left, and a glimpse of the mansion-house can

be seen on the right, embosomed among the trees. But the best view of Kinrara is obtained from the road on the opposite side of the Spey, at a point which will be indicated.

DUCHESS OF GORDON'S TOMB.

In a clump of tall trees half-a-mile west from the house, and overlooking the Spey, is the last resting-place of Duchess Jane, a massive monument standing at the end of the tomb, on which is a long inscription showing that several of the sons and daughters of this celebrated lady in time formed alliances with some of the greatest families in England. The spot selected for the grave was at one time a burial ground called *St. Eda*, but no trace of this ancient place of sepulture can now be seen. "At Kinrara, too," says a recent writer, "another Duchess of Gordon delighted to resort, but a woman of a totally different character. Elizabeth, last Duchess of the name, was a daughter of the younger son of the good laird of Brodie, and it must ever add to the charm of this lovely retreat that it is associated with one who gave to the house of which she was the last the lustre of a consecrated Christian life. Her memoirs by Dr. Moody Stuart will always be held in high esteem."

EXITS FROM KINRARA.

Proceeding north-eastwards, rounding the base of Tor Alvie, the pedestrian or equestrian will find on his right a carriage drive that will take him to Aviemore Station ($2\frac{1}{2}$ miles), or keeping to the one on the left an exit will be found to the highway at the east end of Loch Alvie.

LOCH ALVIE.

Retracing to the point whence we diverged from the highway for Kinrara at the west end of the hill, we proceed eastwards, and immediately a portion of Loch Alvie bursts upon the view, but the larger part of the lake is screened from the gaze by a peninsula that juts out a considerable distance from

the roadway. Picturesquely situated on the furthest point of this peninsula are the *Parish Church* and *Manse of Alvie*. The loch is about a mile in length, and perhaps an average of half-a-mile in breadth. Its shores are very irregular, and on the north a spur of the Monaliadh rises harsh and bare. The loch contains abundance of splendid trout, of form, colour, and quality equal to those of Loch Leven. The fishing is preserved to the shooting lessee, but the parish minister has the right to fish. Kinrara hill rises abruptly from the water's edge on the south. Winding round the shores of the lake we come to one of the approach roads to Kinrara House, which is about a mile distant on the other side of the hill. Here an outflow from Loch Alvie is crossed by one of those narrow hogbacked bridges erected by General Wade, with the sharp curve at one end which is so often found on the old Highland bridges, and which formed so serious an element of danger during dark and stormy nights in the old coaching days. Looking down the course of the stream there is seen a large viaduct, the construction of which gave immense trouble when the railway was being made, extreme difficulty being experienced in securing a stable foundation. Beyond it the water forms a marsh called *The Boggach*, where excellent pike fishing is sometimes obtained.

LYNWILG HOTEL : A NOTED ESTABLISHMENT.

Further on to the left we come to Lynwilg Hotel, in connection with which there is a posting establishment. Although the present hotel is of modern construction, there has been a licensed business in the locality since the early part of last century, having been established about 1820 or 1830. During the greater part of last century there was conducted here one of the most extensive general merchant's businesses in the central Highlands, but with the opening of the railway and the draining away of the population the trade gradually declined, and this branch of Lynwilg establishment is now closed. This was a stage in the coaching days, and the district Post

Office was kept here for many years, but the Post Office is now done away with, walking postmen from Aviemore delivering and collecting the mails. The existing building was erected by the late Mr. William Cumming. A noted house it was in pre-railway days. A better known man than the late Mr. Cumming in the coaching times there was not to be found between Inverness and Perth. An exceedingly kind, shrewd, and capable business man, he was a genuine Highland wit and humorist, possessed of remarkable powers of sarcasm. The hotel contains half a score of rooms, and is a favourite resort for parties starting for and arriving from the grand tour of the Cairngorms. It is a pity there are no facilities for crossing the Spey at the *Doune*, twenty minutes' walk from the house, otherwise the tourist could place himself at *Loch-an-Eilan* or in the heart of *Rothiemurchus* within a very short space of time, and at the base of the Grampians within a couple of hours. There is a ford at the Doune, and there used to be a boat. As it is, pedestrians have to make a detour by Aviemore bridge, two miles distant from Lynwilg. Road on left here to farm of *Ballinluig*.

From Lynwilg Hotel many delightful driving or walking tours can be made. Half-an-hour's climb takes one to the top of Tor Alvie.

GORDON MONUMENT: WATERLOO HEROES.

Here there stands a lofty pillar, erected to the memory of the last of the Dukes of Gordon, "The Cock of the North." Some distance off is a cairn commemorative of Sir Robert Macara of the 42nd, and Colonel John Cameron of the 93rd Highlanders, who fell at the battle of Waterloo.

A MAGNIFICENT VIEW.

Scarcely any view in the Highlands can surpass that to be obtained from the summit of Kinrara Hill, in all directions. "Loch Alvie at its northern base," says a recent writer, "adds a charm that no artist can transfer to canvas." And another—

"The view from the Duke's monument is one of the finest imaginable, reaching a great distance up and down the Spey, with its vast framework of mountains to the south and west, and comprising close at hand the great central group of the loftiest of the Grampians, and the mingled arable, meadow, and moorland plain studded with numerous small lakes and sections of the Spey. It gives the best idea of the great extent of the pine forests of Glenmore and Rothiemurchus spread over a vast ascending plain in front of the mountains. A writer in the *Times* a few years ago devoted three columns to a graphic description of the magnificent panoramic view. Still another author, writing long ago, said :—"Nothing can exceed the grandeur of the scenery about Rothiemurchus, or the magnificent scale that nature appears in—the breadth of the valley, the noble stream by which it is watered, the grandeur of the mountains surrounding it ; the immensity of its natural forests, its gleaming lakes, the stately form and rich colouring of those isolated hills, rising at once in the middle of the landscape ; the dark green pines stretching far up the mountain sides, as if endeavouring to take possession by storm ; the richly wood-hung rocks, with a thousand more minute charms, call forth admiration and impress the mind with sensations never before experienced. It combines all that is grand and impetuous in Highland scenery."

After leaving Lynwilg, on the right, there is a road leading to Kinrara House, and at a part of it a good view is obtained of the Spey and the fine mansion of the Doune, of Rothiemurchus, and of the Ord Ban Hill, screening Loch-an-Eilan from the north. On the left, farm-house of *Easter Lynwilg*. Beside the burn is a path leading to the River Dulnan some miles back.

A GREAT MUSICIAN'S HIGHLAND RETREAT.

Some distance up this great ravine Mr. Henschel, the eminent musician, erected, in 1900, a fine summer residence, which for romantic beauty and the privacy and quietness which

a great pianist and composer almost necessarily requires it would be difficult to surpass. The road here leads across the hills to the Dulnan and Strathdearn.

“STAND FAST, CRAIGELLACHIE !”

Since leaving Lynwilg the traveller has been confronted at close quarters on the east by Craigellachie, whose name formed the slogan of the Clan Grant. Skirting the hill, we pass, half-way down, the march that separates the Duke of Richmond's from the Seafeld estates, and Badenoch from Strathspey.

THE CAIRNGORMS FROM CRAIGELLACHIE.

It is not our purpose to enter upon a description of the Cairngorm Hills and the sublime grandeur of the scenes to be witnessed among the giants of the Grampians. Suffice it to say that from Craigellachie Rock the best view of them is had that can be obtained without actually paying a visit to the giants themselves. From Aviemore Station or Lynwilg Hotel a sufficient elevation can easily be attained on Craigellachie from which Ben Macdhui and lesser heights can readily be seen. In front is the Larig, a savage pass running between Rothiemurchus and Braemar, its rocky sides rising almost sheer to a height of over 2000 feet. In the far distance is Ben Macdhui, further east is Cairngorm, to the west Braeriach, Ben-a-Bhuird, and others. As seen from the Station, the mountain view from east to west includes the following :—Cairngorm (4084 feet), Castle Hill (2366 feet), Creag na Leacainn or the Lurcher's Crag (3448 feet), Ben Muich Dhui (4296 feet), Carn Elrick (2435 feet), Braeriach (4248 feet), Cadha Mor (2313 feet), Creag Dubh (2766 feet), the Argyll Stone, Sgoran Dubh Mor (3635 feet), Ord Bain (1405 feet), Geal-Charn (3019 feet), and Creag Mhigeachaidh (2429 feet).

AVIEMORE STATION AND BRIDGE.

At the eastern base of Craigellachie is situated Aviemore Station, the junction with the Inverness and Forres branches

of the Highland Railway, 12 miles from Kingussie, 6 from Kin-craig, 30 and 60 from Inverness, and 82 from Perth. Before reaching it pass on right beyond the railway *Craigellachie Cottage*. Attached to the first villa some distance west from the station are post and telegraph office and a general merchant's business. Since the first edition of this guide was written, fifteen years ago, the scattered hamlet of Aviemore has grown considerably in size, and seems destined to become a place of much greater importance in the future. The direct railway to Inverness has been opened, reducing the train journey to 30 miles instead of 60, as it was round by Forres and Nairn. The station is now an important junction, upon which and its various adjuncts and surroundings the Highland Company has expended many thousands of pounds. The many new erections include a stationmaster's house ; porters', engine-men's, signalmen's, and other dwellings ; locomotive sheds, signal boxes, &c. The junction, in fact, for all railway purposes is a complete unit in itself. Behind the station a short "street" of villas is in process of formation, and, as the situation is excellent for feuing purposes, many more houses will no doubt arise in due course. There are already two shops for general merchandise ; also butcher's, shoemaker's, and carpenter's shops. A new Church, in connection with the Church of Scotland, has been opened, and there is a Free Church on the opposite side of the river. But the leading features of Aviemore at the beginning of the twentieth century is the

ENORMOUS NEW HOTEL,

Erected on rising ground behind the railway station at a cost of upwards of £25,000. The building is right opposite Cairngorm and the chief peaks of the Grampian range, an uninterrupted view of which can be obtained from all the front rooms across the great afforested domains of Rothiemurchus. The mountain view in fact cannot be surpassed in Scotland. The extensive grounds attached to the house have been laid out with great taste, and when the plants, flowers, trees, shrubs,

&c., grow up the surroundings in a few years will be beautiful. In the vicinity of the hotel there is a golf course. There are considerable sheets of water close at hand, and the Spey flows past in full sight a few hundred yards distant. There are also a Temperance Hotel and a Private Hotel.

ROTHIEMURCHUS : LOCH-AN-EILAN.

At a point a few yards west from Aviemore Post Office the tour from Kingussie that we have been describing comes to an end. Turning with the carriage road on the right we dive down below the railway and immediately reach the substantial bridge that spans the Spey, after which we are in Rothiemurchus, the property of Mr. John Peter Grant, an advocate, and one of the Sheriffs of Inverness-shire, whose principal local residence is the Doune, an immense building close to the Spey, about a mile and a half distant from the bridge, one of the finest residences on Speyside. Rothiemurchus is derived from the Gaelic *Rath-mòr-a-ghiuthas*, "the large plain of the firs." The plain between the Spey and the base of the Grampians is of immense extent, occupying many square miles of area, and was at one time covered with about the

LARGEST PINES IN SCOTLAND.

It is stated that from a tree which grew in the forest were sawn planks which measured 7 feet in breadth, and giant pines of 20 feet circumference were quite common. Since the middle of last century, however, the aspect of Glenmore and other parts of Rothiemurchus has undergone an entire change, the transformation that has been effected since the opening of the railway enabling the proprietor to utilise this immense source of wealth being nothing short of marvellous. A trade in timber has doubtless been carried on in upper Speyside regions for centuries.

RAFTING ON THE SPEY.

In very old records mention may be found made of rafting small quantities down the Spey to Garmouth; but the

appliances were so primitive that the operation was attended with great danger. In 1730 an English company called the York Building Co. bought woods in Abernethy to the value of £7000, and commenced operations on an extensive scale. The timber trade and iron-smelting business was carried on till 1737, when the speculation terminated in bankruptcy and ruin. "The men," says an old statistical account, "were the most profligate set ever heard of in this corner. Their extravagances of every kind ruined themselves and corrupted others: but yet their coming to the country was beneficial in many respects; for besides the knowledge and skill which were acquired from them, they made many valuable and lasting improvements. They cut roads through the woods; they erected proper saw-mills; they invented the construction of proper rafts, without which floating to any extent could never be attempted." With improved methods of transporting the timber to the sea, the trade soon increased in magnitude. Towards the close of the 18th century the Duke of Gordon sold the wood in the fine forest of Glenmore for £10,000 to a respectable company from Hull. The purchasers going systematically to work, "realised for themselves a handsome fortune, and in a great measure enriched the country by their disbursements." It was the opening of the Highland Railway, however, that gave a proper impetus to the traffic. The forests have since been almost completely denuded, and many thousands of pounds must have been expended in purchasing and manufacturing timber. Once more, however, the great forest of Rothiemurchus is fast replenishing itself.

PLACES OF INTEREST IN ROTHIEMURCHUS.

In Rothiemurchus there are numerous places of interest to the tourist and visitor, and many charming walks and drives; but as the district is outwith the bounds of Badenoch, we must content ourselves with a very superficial sketch of the place. There seems to be some doubt as to whether Rothiemurchus was ever actually included in the Lordship of Badenoch

although the adjoining parish of Kincardine, lower down the Spey, is mentioned as having been so included. Rothiemurchus belonged to the Bishops of Moray, and at times they feued the whole to some powerful person—as to the Wolfe of Badenoch in 1383 ; to Alexander Keyr Mackintosh in 1464, in whose family it appears to have been held till 1539, when it passed to the Gordons, and from them to the Grants.

Progressing from Spey Bridge along the side of the River Druie, a road on the right about a mile and a half in length takes us to

THE DOUNE,

the family residence of the Grants of Rothiemurchus, the mansion being surrounded with beautifully wooded policies. The Doune was the favourite Highland resort of the “old” Duke and Duchess of Bedford, the latter a daughter of Jane, Duchess of Gordon. Until the Duchess of Bedford died about 1850, the family had been coming to Rothiemurchus for many years, and they also rented the shootings of Glenfeshie. Great style was maintained by the Bedford family. There was an incessant succession of balls and other forms of amusement, and their charity to the poor and needy having been unbounded, elderly people both in Badenoch and Rothiemurchus speak with fond and plaintive regret of the times of the “old” Duchess of Bedford.

INVERDRUIE : COYLUM BRIDGE.

From the handsome new United Free Church at Inverdruiie, and Coylum Bridge in the vicinity, roads run to Abernethy, Glenmore Lodge, Loch Morlich, Drumintoul Lodge, up to the pass of Larig Grue, leading through the Grampians from Strathspay to Braemar and to Loch Eūnaich, a terribly solitary sheet of water lying at the base of Braeriach, 1700 feet above sea level, and almost entirely surrounded by stupendous precipices. At times this mountain tarn affords splendid sport to anglers, but it is situated within the confines of the forest. Of the numerous places of interest in Rothiemurchus to one only of

these is it the intention here to refer. Taking the centre road at Inverdrue U.F. Church and proceeding south-westwards for nearly three miles, or by another road from Doune garden to be subsequently noticed, we come to one of the most charming of all Highland lakes,

LOCH-AN-EILAN, WOLFE'S CASTLE, AND OSPREY'S HOME,

situated at the south-eastern base of the Ord Ban, or white hill, which, by the way, is green to its summit, near to which is an extensive and valuable quarry of limestone. Of singularly romantic beauty, the charms of Loch-an-Eilan have been so frequently described in prose and sung in verse that a lengthened notice is here unnecessary. Suffice it here to say that Loch-an-Eilan—or the lake of the island—is annually visited by hundreds of persons from all parts of Great Britain, as well as many from abroad. Between two and three miles in circumference, and embosomed amid woods and hills, its environments are of a wonderfully picturesque character. On a small island or rock some distance from the north shore are the ruins of what was once a castle stronghold of the Wolfe of Badenoch. Although roofless, the shell of the old castle is still practically intact after the vicissitudes of centuries. What adds more to the romantic picturesqueness of the old castle is that on a ruined turret in the western corner a pair of ospreys, or water eagles, have every season since time out of mind built a nest and brought forth and reared a brood. Every year towards the end of April these beautiful birds make their appearance at the old castle, and immediately proceed to renovate the nest with sticks and other material, the “structure” now attaining the dimensions of a considerable pile. Although there is a cottage in the immediate vicinity, and the nesting operations are often conducted in presence of numerous spectators, these usually shy birds show not the slightest signs of fear or alarm, but go and come in the most unconcerned manner possible. Once or twice every day for two or three months one of the ospreys pays a visit to Loch Insh, some miles distant, on a fishing

expedition. Now and then it may be seen pouncing down on a pike or trout or eel with almost unfailing accuracy of aim, and then, with the victim struggling in its talons, it wings its way to its mate, or the brood in the security of Loch-an-Eilan Castle. Not for many years has any attempt been made to molest these delightful visitors, and any such attempt would probably be visited with condign punishment on the male-factors if their identity came to be discovered.

AN EAGLE'S BATTLE.

A few years ago three eagles came to the island at the usual time. It is not certain whether two were males or two females. In any case the birds quarrelled, and fought with a ferocity worthy of the Wolfe of Badenoch himself, the first human tenant of the Castle. Eventually one of the eagles was killed, and the others deserted the nest.

NEW NESTING PLACE.

They, however, prepared another in a different situation, amid unwonted environments, some distance away. The family home could not be discovered the first year, but the birds returned to the new quarters in 1900, and in the course of the season the nest was detected. Its exact locality, however, is concealed. There has been much speculation as to whether it is always the old birds that return, or whether it is a pair of a recent brood that revisit the scenes of their youth.

REMARKABLE ECHO.

Speaking towards the castle from a certain point on the north shore a remarkable echo is heard, the sound reverberating in the most distinct manner among the rocks and woods of the neighbouring hill. The shore of Loch-an-Eilan is a favourite resort of pic-nic parties. Quite close to the lake is a cottage, and in an adjoining stable temporary accommodation for a pair of horses may as a rule be obtained ; and perhaps the occupant

of the cottage might be induced to undertake the preparation of tea for a visiting party.

GREAT FIRE AT LOCH-AN-EILAN.

Towards the end of August, 1898, the charm and beauty of Loch-an-Eilan and its surroundings were within measurable distance of being spoiled for many years, if not permanently destroyed from the scenic point of view. In some mysterious manner fire broke out a considerable distance from the west end of the lake. The weather at the time was excessively hot, the rank undergrowth of heather and other shrubs was of the most combustible character, and, before the ascent of dense volumes of smoke made known the fact that anything was amiss, a great conflagration had progressed for a long distance through the woods on the south side of the loch. Notwithstanding the most desperate efforts of a large body of people, the flames were not extinguished for several days, nor until the fire had reached nearly the eastern extremity of Loch-an-Eilan, and was in danger of extending to the main forests of Rothiemurchus and Glenmore. Many thousands of trees were destroyed, and more thousands so much damaged that they had to be cut down. The removal of so much timber has, of course, tended somewhat to change the aspect of the scenery, but there is so much recuperative power in the Rothiemurchus forest that the blanks will soon disappear, and, in any case, few but those familiar with the old features will detect any hiatus in the woods which embosom lovely Loch-an-Eilan.

Connected with the lake on the west by a stream is a small sheet of water called Loch Gamhna (literally stirks' loch), nearly 1000 feet above sea level. On the path thereto the pedestrian passes a hill full of rocks, holes, and caverns, and covered with brushwood, that used, not so many years ago, to be infested with wild and marten cats and other savage creatures.

In returning from Loch-an-Eilan, after proceeding some distance, a road strikes away to the left, which by following

will lead to the highway at the Doune gardens, and the Doune, the beautiful residence of the laird of Rothiemurchus, whence the homeward journey to Kingussie may be undertaken. The road on the right goes by way of the croft to Inverdrue and Aviemore. A description of the route homeward would here follow in natural sequence, but in order to trace another excursion it will be better for the sake of convenience to proceed from Kingussie eastwards along the road on the south side of the Spey. And this brings us to

EXCURSION No. II.—15 miles.

KINGUSSIE to TROMIE, INSH, FESHIE BRIDGE, ROTHIE-MURCHUS, LOCH-AN-EILAN.

Starting from Kingussie on this trip we pass the railway station, cross the Spey Bridge, erected by the County Council in 1895 in place of a timber structure which formerly spanned the river. Now the

PARISH OF INSH

is entered, and will have to be traversed parallel with the Spey for the next nine miles. As explained in the account of Insh Church in the last Excursion, Insh is from *innis*, the Gaelic name for island, and the particular island in the case is that on which the church is built, at the east end of Loch Insh. The parish extends southwards to Mar and Atholl on the Grampians. The land in nearly the whole of the parish is the property of Sir George Macpherson Grant, Bart. of Ballindalloch and Invereshie.

Ascending the brae from Kingussie bridge there is passed on the right the farm-house of Ruthven. The road to the right proceeds to connect with the Perth road near Newtonmore bridge, on the Spey. Along the three mile branch there are passed the farm-houses of *Nuide-beg*, *Inverton*, and *Nuide*, which is the property of Cluny Macpherson. At Ruthven a *footpath*

striking across the shoulder of the hill gives a short cut to Glentromie and Gaick. On the left is the ruined barracks, originally castle, of Ruthven, already described. Pass on right farm of *Gordonhall*, in Gaelic *Lag-an-Notair*, the Notary's Hollow, where the rents used to be collected for the Gordon estates. About this quarter there was a considerable population at one time.

“OSSIAN” MACPHERSON, SCHOOLMASTER.

It was here that James Macpherson of “Ossian's Poems” fame taught a humble school, although the accident of fortune resulted in his securing a place of sepulture among the greatest of British worthies in the Abbey of Westminster. Proceeding, two stiff braes are negotiated, and as they are fraught with some danger to vehicles if coming rapidly from the east, drivers should have their horses, and cyclists their machines, well under control. The hamlet of *Torcroy* is reached, where blacksmith's and carpenter's shops are to be found. On left a road to farm-house of *Invertromie*, where there is a footbridge over Tromie, by which journey to Insh village is shortened. Across the moor and river facing from the right there is seen in a fine situation the large farm-house of *Killiehuntly*. It was for some years the autumn residence of Baron Reuter of “Reuter's Telegrams” fame. Mr. John Morley also lived in Killiehuntly for a season when he was editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette* and the *Fortnightly Review*, and here it was that he wrote his “Life of Cobden.” Two and a half miles out from Kingussie Tromie Bridge is reached, the River Tromie rushing through a gorge underneath the structure. Tromie bridge is beloved by artists, and is a favourite resort for Kingussie visitors. The Tromie is an excellent angling river. The road to the right takes to Glentromie and Gaick, which will be described in another excursion. The road to the left is the one we now follow. The approach to the bridge from the east is awkward, and before the parapets were raised there were occasional accidents. First road on left takes to *Mill of Tromie* (meal

mill), and on the right opposite is one of the carriage roads and the

SHORTEST ROAD TO GLENFESHIE.

Ascend the steep brae—and it will be well to keep the brae in memory in anticipation of the dangerous descent,—and on the plateau above is the straggling hamlet of *Drumguish*, “the ridge of the firs.” Here there are two grocers’ shops. A long bleak moor is thence traversed, and on descending to the valley of the River Fernsdale—small and insignificant as a rule, but not to be despised or made light of when swollen after heavy rains in the adjacent hills—come to farms of *Balguish* and *Corarnsdale*. After proceeding some distance the valley of the River Feshie comes into view, and another carriage road is met. This is the road from Kincaig Station, which branches off from the main Kingussie and Rothiemurchus Road at *Manse of Insh*. This side road will be followed in our Third Excursion—from Kingussie to Glenfeshie,—when various places of interest along Feshie side will be indicated.

Returning now to where we branched off near Tromie bridge and resuming the main journey eastward, pass on left road for *Dell of Killiehuntly* farm-house, and on right there is a foot-path to Drumguish already mentioned. Half-a-mile onward come to approach to *Old Milton*, or *Milton Cottage* as it is commonly called locally, a house of considerable size, one of the Badenoch residences of Sir George Macpherson Grant, and occupied by Mr. John Macpherson Grant, yr. of Ballindalloch and Invereshie. Few hundred yards further on road on right takes to farm of *Inveruglas*, whence there is a rough road that joins the road to Glenfeshie. Next is met the small

VILLAGE OF INSH.

The Public School is at the west end. There is a hotel in the centre, where a trap can be obtained, and adjoining the hostelry will be found a *Post and Telegraph Office*, and there are grocers’ shops. Here, if desired, there can be pointed out

a short cut to the river Feshie, and thence to Glenfeshie. Proceeding, the last building on the right is what is known as the *Meeting House*, where services are held on Sunday evenings in connection with the United Free Church. Services in connection with the Established Church are held on alternate Sunday evenings in the school. On left, farm-house of *Soillerie*. About a quarter of a mile further on, on left hand, is *Golf Course of Insh*. The "tee" is at the roadside, the drives are to the bottom of the brae, along the hollow and back again, the ground being one of 9 holes. From Insh village onward a good view is obtained of the Monaliadh hills opposite, of Balavil House, and the valley of the Spey eastward and westward. Pass on right farm-house of Lynchlaggan. Away down towards the Spey is *Coull*. At the east corner of wooded hill on the right of the road is seen the beetling precipitous cliff called *Farletter Rock*. On the top of a hillock in advance, on the left, is farm-house of *Farr*—Farr Cottage pleasantly overlooking Loch Insh. From this point there can be seen Dunachton Lodge on the north side of the loch, and Dunachton Farm and other places which could be viewed from the north highway. The elevated green spot up behind Dunachton Lodge is the *Cluanach*, already referred to as offering from its brow one of the finest views in Badenoch. The next place we come to is the

MANSE OF INSH.

The Church of Insh, at the east end of the loch, has already been written about. At the manse a principal road to Glenfeshie branches off, and from this point will be taken up in next excursion. The house on the brae-face is Balnespick, a name that often appears in historical documents connected with Badenoch from the 13th century. The Gaelic equivalent is the town or seat of the Bishop, the lands doubtless being then attached to the Bishopric of Moray. Road to left, half-a-mile onwards, leads to Invereshie Home Farm, Insh Parish Church, Spey Bridge, Kincaig Station, and the turnpike on the north side of the Spey. Progressing another couple of hundred yards

a glimpse is obtained to the left front of

INVERESHIE MANSION-HOUSE,

the principal residence in Badenoch of Sir George Macpherson Grant of Ballindalloch and Invereshie, the estate that has been traversed for nine miles from opposite Kingussie, and which extends from the Spey southwards to march with Mar and Atholl forests, far away among the Grampian summits. Invereshie House is of considerable size, but has no architectural pretensions. It is let along with the shootings. Immediately below it is the home farm. Branching off from the road to the left is one of the approaches to the mansion-house. In front, but invisible from this point, are the large garden and the estate sawmill, near to which is a *footbridge* across the River Feshie, by which a short cut takes the pedestrian to Iosal footbridge on the Spey, and so on to Kinrara, the North Turnpike, Lynwilg, and Aviemore. A service road here leads to Invereshie House, the home farm, the sawmill, and Kinraig Station. It is a very near cut for pedestrians, but it is not usual for strange vehicles to make use of the road, especially after the beginning of August. We have now come to the

RIVER FESHIE AND FESHIE BRIDGE.

Feshie is printed as *Fessy* in charters as early as 1230. The name is believed to be Celtic and Pictish. It rises high south among the Grampians at an altitude of nearly 3000 feet, is 22 miles long, and is one of the rapidest and most turbulent in the Highlands. The floods sometimes are awesome to gaze upon, and the water rises with extraordinary rapidity. The river used to be first-rate for angling, but, as already stated, like all the waters in the district the number of both trout and salmon are constantly falling away. The Feshie Bridge *Post Office* is on the high ground opposite. The approach to the bridge from the east side is very dangerous. Path on right bank of river takes to farm of *Ballintian*, two miles up, and to Glenfeshie. On the top of the wooded hill

called the *Ord*, there used to be seen, close to and parallel to each other, great numbers of elongated mounds or barrows. Tradition has it that among the many tribal conflicts in Badenoch once was fought on the top of the *Ord*, and it was the common belief among the native inhabitants that these mounds were the graves of those slain in battle. When the ground was being planted some forty years since a number of the supposed graves were opened, but no object was discovered calculated to throw any light upon what purpose they were made for. That they were artificial appeared to be beyond question.

LEAVE INSH : ENTER ALVIE.

At the River Feshie we leave the parish of Insh and Sir George Macpherson Grant's property and enter Alvie and the property of the Mackintosh south of the Spey. Both parish and estate at this point do not extend southwards beyond a few hundred yards from Feshie Bridge, and is here very narrow. Eastwards they go about a couple of miles, marching with Rothiemurchus and south to Braeriach. Another steep brae is here encountered, and is dangerous coming from the east.

ANOTHER ROAD TO GLENFESHIE.

At the top of the brae, near the house and on the right, is another road branching off to *Lagganlia School*—quarter of a mile—and Glenfeshie. It is, however, suitable only for carts and light vehicles, but along the course of the Feshie for some miles the scenery on a fine day is most enjoyable, and the road offers an opportunity of viewing at close quarters the terribly scarred face and colossal proportions of Craigmegachidh, rising sheer for well on to 2429 feet. We follow the road for some distance. At *Lagganlia*, in addition to the school, there are a carpenter's shop and other houses. The attendance at this school is now small, but at one time it averaged nearly 100, and as a General Assembly School, forty years and backwards, it was considered to be one of the most successfully conducted in

Badenoch. Many scholars, some of them of the age and stature of men, used to come long distances for tuition. Not a few clever fellows were here equipped with education.

From Lagganlia School no spectator can fail to be immensely struck with the aspect of the mighty ben rising southwards. The great furrows torn down the face have been caused by avalanches of snow in their descent. The central one was to a large extent, made about half-a-century ago, when an immense number of trees and prodigious boulders descended and precipitated long distances along the moor at the base. There was another avalanche a few years ago, when a number of deer were taken down from the very top of the acclivity. The deer forest extends from Mar to the base of the hill. At the east and west ends bridle paths lead away backwards for the convenience of sportsmen.

ORIGIN OF A SPIRITED STRATHSPEY.

Advancing in the direction of Glenfeshie from the school, we come to a small burn named the Markie—*Allt Mharkie*. In the 15th century the Invermarkie grounds here were owned by the Earl of Ross, and leased to the Thane of Cawdor, in whose name they appear till the 17th century, when Invereshie gets possession of them. Near the confluence of the Markie with the Feshie there was a corn mill known as *Am Mhuileann Dubh* or Blackmill, and associated with this mill is a natural history incident, reference to which will be of interest to rhymsters and lovers of Scotch music, inasmuch as it gave occasion to the composition of an excellent Gaelic song and an extremely spirited Highland fling dancing tune. It is recorded that “a grouse from the adjacent moor built its nest in a niche near the mill hopper, much to the annoyance of the miller while filling the hopper with corn.” Doubtless, too, the muir-hen suffered equal annoyance on her side, but the state of her feelings is not recorded! And this incident gave rise to the song of which the following are some lines:—

" Tha' muileann dubh air thuraban,
 Tha' muileann dubh air thuraban,
 Tha' muileann dubh air thuraban,
 'Se 'togar dol a dhannsadh."

" 'S tha nead na circe fraoiche,
 S mhuileann dubh, sa mhuileann dubh,
 Tha nead na circe fraoiche,
 Sa mhuileann dubh, o shambradh."

Some three miles up the glen, the Feshie is crossed by several bridges, and any stranger who wishes to return to Kingussie by a western road across the moor will have no difficulty in obtaining the necessary directions at any of the farm-houses in the strath. These houses will be referred to further in the next Excursion to Glenfeshie.

FESHIE BRIDGE POST OFFICE.

Returning to Feshie Bridge Post Office. It is nine miles from Kingussie, about a mile from Kincaig Station, about three from Rothiemurchus March, and seven from Aviemore Station. There are postmen daily to and from Kincaig and Kingussie. Here there was at one time a well-known inn, but for many years there has been no licensed house between Insh village and Abernethy on the south side of the Spey. At the Post Office begin to traverse the *Moor of Feshie*. Some years ago it was treeless, but the greater part is now adorned by a thriving fir plantation. Road on left takes to footbridge on Feshie, a little distance down, near Invereshie Sawmill, makes a short way to Kincaig Station. The scenery of the moor presents no feature of interest, but on the left a good view is obtained of the valley through which runs the Spey, and also of a portion of the Monaliadh hills not hitherto seen. In a hollow a bit down the moor is the house of *Druminlochan*. Near it is a nice circular sheet of water called *Loch Gheal* or White Loch, in which there are said to be trout and pike covered with hair. In May, 1905, a windmill (50 feet high) was constructed for pumping water to Druminlochan.

This singular lake has no visible feeders or outflows. Road here for Druminlochan and *Dalnavert Farm*. The names Dalnavert and Kinrara further on appear in documents as far back as 1338, when the lands were granted by the Earl of Ross to Malmoran of Glencairn. All along the moor of Feshie the traveller will be able to trace the Spey, from Kinraig Station to Kinrara, and he can also see the foot-bridge at Iosal, just below him. Pass on left *gamekeeper's house*, and some distance further on, on left, is *Tombain Cottage* (the forester to The Mackintosh). Ruins here on left all that remains of several joined houses that used to be known as *The Street* (of Dalnavert). Away up, some distance among the pines, there is (or was some years ago) an immense heronry, a number of the tall trees being crammed with nests in the season, and the "swearing" of the inhabitants quite equal to the objurgations heard from any colony of rooks in Christendom. On the left farm-house of *South Kinrara Farm*, at one time well-known for its stock of Highland cattle. Path on right, nearly in front, leads by a short cut to *Loch-an-Eilan*. Directly opposite, in a detached clump of aged larches, is the *tomb* of the famous Duchess Jane of Gordon. The massive memorial stone may sometimes be visible from this point.

ROTHIEMURCHUS.

Some little distance ahead, a stone dyke on the right indicates the eastern extremity of the portion of Alvie parish situated south of the Spey. Here The Mackintosh estate is left, and that of Mr. John Peter Grant, proprietor of Rothiemurchus, entered.

BEAUTIFUL VIEW OF KINRARA.

It is while skirting the base of this hill, Ord Bàn, White Hill, but green and birch-clad at its summit, that we obtain the best view of Kinrara, and are compelled to get enraptured by the exquisite beauty of its surroundings. Built on a terrace

overlooking the Spey, and embosomed in its native woods, with its fine walks, trim garden and trailing vines, "Kinrara," wrote the late Dr. Carruthers of the *Inverness Courier*, "rises like a paradise in the wild, and resembling rather, with the surrounding scenery, the creation of some eastern tale than a sober reality." As we progress eastward, too, we the better perceive the proportions of Kinrara Hill or Tor-Alvie, rising abruptly to the Duke of Gordon monument, robed to the summit with lovely weeping birches. Here a path on the left leads to a *delightful walk* along the banks of the Spey, back to or from the footbridge at Iosal. Gate on left some distance on marks the approach to the *Parish Church* and churchyard of Rothiemurchus, wherein is the *mausoleum* of the family of Rothiemurchus. Two or three hundred yards in advance,

THE DOUNE,

the grand family mansion of the lairds, bursts upon the view in the valley below. It is close to the Spey, and when the river is in very high flood the water sometimes submerges the adjacent level haugh to a considerable depth. A short distance on upon the right is the *Doune Gardens*, beautifully maintained and most productive. At the eastern extremity is the

LOCH-AN-EILAN ROAD.

Ascending the brae the *Manse of Rothiemurchus* is seen on the left. Near by is *Polchar*, for many years the summer home of the distinguished theologian and litterateur, the Rev. Dr. Martineau, who died in 1900, when approaching his hundredth year. The road to Loch-an-Eilan skirts the eastern base of the Ord Bàn. Near the summit, overlooking a portion of the loch, there is a great quarry of limestone, and the traveller as he passes along will notice where the masses of stone were rolled down the almost perpendicular declivity.

Loch-an-Eilan has been already described in the preceding paper, and here ends Excursion No. 2 from Kingussie.

EXCURSION No. III.—14 miles.

KINGUSSIE to MANSE OF INSH and GLENFESHIE.

Another extremely popular drive with visitors. As already shown, there are two carriage roads—one striking off to the right east of Tromie Bridge, and the other at the Manse of Insh, about 8 miles from Kingussie. By taking the Manse road the distance from Kingussie to Glenfeshie will be about 16 miles, and by Tromie Bridge and Drumguish route about 10 miles. But many parties from Kingussie prefer to go up the Manse road, as by it the approach view is much the more striking, and returning by the western route across the moor, which gives a better view of Kingussie and surroundings. This is the road we propose now to take the reader, the other has been partly described in the last paper. From Kingussie to the Manse of Insh the journey can be accomplished by either the north or south roads, the distance being much about the same.

FROM MANSE TO INSH.

Arriving at the Manse of Insh, 8 miles from Kingussie, we strike off the main highway due south at the hill, *Balnespick House*, Gaelic *Bail* (town or residence) and *Easbuig* (Bishop)—so named from the connections with the Bishopric of Moray in the 13th century and onwards. The *Drum Wood* of Invereshie estate is then entered, and traversed for some distance. At the southern edge pass a *gamekeeper's house*, and immediately on emerging from the dark recesses of the wood the Grampians, with their great corries, the Strath of Feshie and the entrance to Glenfeshie, come into view in all their varied grandeur, ruggedness, and beauty. A considerable expanse of moor has to be passed through, upon which not a single human habitation is visible. On the right there are a number of lakelets, some in sight and some in hollows out of view, called *Na h-uath Lochan*, which may be Anglicised into the dread lakes, probably from *Uamhaidh*, dreadful, on account of their dark and lonely

situation at the southern base of Craig Farletter, and in the vicinity of *Badandhu*, the black forest of pines, rising to the south-west. The great corry opening up in the Grampians opposite is *Cor-roy*, a favourite haunt of the deer at certain seasons. Through it, and between the hills, there runs Allt-roy, a tributary of the Feshie. Years ago it was famed as a trouting stream, but the fish have now greatly decreased in number, size, and quality. In any case it is in the forest, and is seldom fished in these days. The hills on either side are Creagmhigeachaidh on the east and Creaghuibhsachan on the west—as evil-looking to the eye of the Sassenach as the half-mile long Welsh jaw-breakers to the ordinary civilised Christian, but as easy to the natives to pronounce as drinking cream!

SNOW THE YEAR ROUND: SAD TRADITION.

Near the top of Cor-roy, to the south-west, is a great hollow where occasionally snow remains from one winter's storm, all through the summer till the following winter, a grand tunnel being wrought out beneath by the gradual melting of the prodigious accumulation of snow in hot or soft weather. The hollow is known as *Ceiste Mhearad*, Margaret's Kirt, Chest, or Coffin. Tradition has it that a certain Margaret, who had been jilted, died here in her mad wanderings, after having cursed the Moyhall Mackintoshes to sterility.

DESTRUCTION BY THE FESHIE.

While emerging on the Feshie there is passed on the left the farm-house of *Ballintian*, the town of the fairy knoll. From Ballintian a footpath goes along Feshie side to Feshie Bridge and Kincraig Station.

For a long distance here the course of the river is marked on either side by an immense expanse of *claddagh*—stones and gravel, borne down by the water in the course of the ages. Opposite, in an easterly direction, may be seen the destructive work of the Feshie in progress. The river strikes violently

against the *bruachinn ruadh*, the red banks on the south side. During the past half-century many acres of what was at one time arable land have been washed away, every big flood depositing large areas further down the Feshie and the Spey, thus often causing the channels to be changed, and destroying some of the best reaches for spawning purposes. Some predictions have been made that the river in course of time will form a new bed along the line of Markie Burn on to Loch-an-Eilan, and through Rothiemurchus to the Spey in the vicinity of Aviemore ! There is no doubt that the silt taken down to the present confluence with the Spey near Kinraig is exercising an injurious effect on the meadows from Loch Insh in the direction of Kingussie by damming back the water of the latter river.

GLENFESHIE FROM BALLINTIAN.

From Ballintian, near which is a *footbridge*, a fine vista is obtained to a far distant part of Glenfeshie, and the view never fails to extort expressions of admiration. Several farm-houses dot the haughs along Feshie side—first *Balachroick*—the town of the knolls, on the south, then *Balnascriidan*, the town of the *sgriodan* or running gravel, *Dulroy*, the red fold, and *Achlean*, the broad field—all in succession on the south side. Achlean is the residence of the district fox hunter, and is famous for its breed of terriers and deer hounds. The present tenant's father, "Callum Ruadh," was a friend of Landseer's, and he and his dogs frequently appeared in the artist's pictures. Proceeding for about half-a-mile, cross the river *Fearnsdale* or *Fearnsdil*, a capital angling stream when the river is slightly flooded, and a favourite water for salmon and trout spawning in its season. A short distance beyond is the farm of *Tolvah*, the hole of drowning. It should be mentioned that from Ballintian upwards the Feshie used to yield first-rate sport to the angler in trout, grilse, and salmon, but the complaint here now, as everywhere else, is that fish of every kind is disappearing, even the bright-speckled minnows which used to swarm in the

waters and constituted a kind of nuisance to the fisher ambitious for the basketting of nobler "game." At *Tolvah* there is a footbridge on the Feshie. Footpath here takes to Insh village across the low hill at the east side of the pine wood.

WESTER KINGUSSIE ROAD AND MARCH.

About this point a junction is effected with the western road from Kingussie, which diverged near Tromie Bridge. Here there is a small school, in the vicinity of which is the march fence that separates the grouse shooting ground of Invereshie from the great deer forest of Glenfeshie, one of the finest and most extensive in Scotland, the area being so great that several rifles can go to different points for stalking purposes without much danger of the one having his sport among the stags interfered with by the shooting of another.

"GREEN GLENFESHIE."

The long drive from the march gate to the shooting lodge is remarkably fine, the hills gradually narrowing in upon the Feshie, which is here excellent for both salmon and trout, but the fishing is strictly preserved by the lessee of the forest. If the visit be paid not later than the middle of July, the chances are that numbers of deer may be seen gathered here and there on the opposite hill face. The head keeper's house is some distance on this side of the lodge, and further than his cottage carriages do not as a rule advance.

ADMIRATION OF THE QUEEN AND PROFESSOR BLACKIE.

The scene from this point to the top of the glen on a fine summer or autumn day is lovely. Her Majesty the late Queen Victoria passed through the glen in 1864 with the Prince Consort, and in her "Journal" writes:—"It is magnificent"; "the whole is grand in the extreme"; "some of the most beautiful scenery possible"; "we are quite enchanted with the view." And then Professor Blackie—

Curtained round by fragrant birches,
 Sentinelled by stout old pines,
 Wean thy heart from dreams of palm trees,
 Orange groves and jewelled mines.

In the land that bore thee find it,
 In Glenfeshie lone and wild,
 Beauty in the arms of grandeur
 Cradled like a sleeping child.

Have my blessing, green Glenfeshie !
 While I tread life's kindly sod,
 I will seek no nobler temple,
 Than thy glen to worship God.

THE LODGE.

The Shooting Lodge is a commodious structure erected nearly forty years ago, when the forest was leased to the late Right Hon. Edward Horsman, M.P.

Sir George Macpherson Grant's ground is intersected on the south side of the Feshie by an extensive strip belonging to The Mackintosh.

"THE HUTS," THE BEDFORD FAMILY, AND LANDSEER.

On "The Island," on the south side of the Feshie, opposite the lodge, is the site of "the Huts," which were the scene of many merry gatherings seventy and more years ago, when the "Old" Duke and Duchess of Bedford (the latter a daughter of the celebrated Duchess of Gordon) leased Glenfeshie as well as the Doune. "The Huts" were a series of semi-detached wooden shanties of a very primitive kind, but the Duchess and her party had an extraordinary fondness for living therein, and, as a recent writer says, "such steer and fun as used to be carried on are unknown now-a-days."

A TRIUMPH OF LANDSEER'S GENIUS.

One of the Duchess's most favoured guests on her visits to Glenfeshie was Sir Edward Landseer, the great artist, who in the locality obtained sketches for some of his most famous

paintings. Although "The Huts" have long since gone to decay, traces of Landseer's genius even yet remain in "The Island." On the lime-work above the fire-place of one of the huts he drew a picture of a stag with a faithfulness to life that has never been surpassed. The Mackintosh, whose property "The Island" is, erected a new building in order to preserve this precious memento of the great painter's genius. But despite all care it is gradually undergoing decay. Other wooden buildings were afterwards erected on the opposite side of the Feshie higher up, but the greater portion of these were destroyed by fire some forty years ago, on which occasion the late Mr. Horsman, M.P., and others, narrowly escaped with their lives.

The glen is particularly picturesque between "The Huts" and Allt Coire Bhlair. The finest gorge in the glen is that of Allt Coire Bhlair on the right bank of the Feshie opposite Sron na Ban-righ (2406 feet). It is an exceedingly narrow gorge, rife with vegetation, and containing a linn, Landseer's Falls, over 150 feet in height. On the left bank of the burn, where it is crossed by the path, the *larack* of a hut may be seen where Landseer occasionally painted.

Sron na Ban-righ, on the left bank of the Feshie, recalls one of the numerous traditions as to the origin of the burning of Scottish forests. This particular legend credits Queen Mary with the destruction of the forest in Badenoch—"Her husband, it would seem, had on his return from a distant hunting expedition asked about the forest before he enquired as to his spouse, and she, grievously offended at this slight, gave orders, as she was seated on Sron na Ban-righ, 'the Queen's nose,' to set the forest on fire."

About a mile and a half east of Allt Coir Bhlair we come to the River Eidart, or Etchart as it is locally known, which has a fine waterfall a short distance above the confluence.

There is a path by Glen Geldie, which connects Braemar with Kingussie—distance, Braemar to Glenfeshie Lodge, 21 miles; Glenfeshie Lodge to Kingussie, 10 miles.

Returning to the march, we strike from the left to the road by which we entered Glenfeshie, and, passing the farms of Balguish and Corarnstil, proceed across the moor of Insh to Tromie Bridge and Kingussie, which from the moor presents a remarkably picturesque appearance, nestling cosily at the base of the wooded slopes of the Monaliadh.

EXCURSION No. IV.—14 miles.

KINGUSSIE to GLENTROMIE and GAICK.

Another magnificent trip! Reaching Tromie Bridge, 2 miles out, strike to the right and skirt the river for several miles. Pass on the left the farm-house of *Killiehuntly*, already referred to, then enter a long defile, with the hill Croilah on the left rising abruptly and precipitously to a height of nearly 2000 feet, its face serrated with broken rocks, largely covered with juniper and birches and firs, generally of stunted growth. The Tromie is about 20 miles in length, and rises on the borders of Atholl.

GLENTROMIE LODGE.

On the right, charmingly situated on the west side of the River Tromie, is Glentromie Lodge, one of the numerous shooting boxes on the Invereshie estate of Sir George Macpherson Grant, to whom Glentromie and Gaick forests belong. From this point for a considerable distance the glen contracts very much, and the passage through it will be greatly enjoyed. The face of the hill on the right was at one time beautifully wooded with birch, and presented a remarkably pleasing aspect. In recent years most of the older trees were cut down and disposed of for commercial purposes, but a forest of young birches begins again to adorn the hillside. As he passes along the glen, the tourist who is anything of an angler cannot fail to notice the excellent stretches of fishing water. The fishing on the Tromie, especially on the upper reaches, is excellent—trout, grilse, and

an occasional salmon being obtained. Permission to fish is required, and seldom refused, except for very good reasons. Some miles further on we strike the Bhran water, another capital trout stream, but like most of the Tromie it is within the forest. From this point for two or three miles the scenery is comparatively tame, moorland stretching away on every side. But once within the defiles of Gaick proper, the panorama of Highland scenery is magnificent. Presently *Loch-an-t'Seilich* bursts into view, and the traveller can scarcely refrain from audibly expressing his admiration of the wonderful scene. About a mile long, half-a-mile wide, the loch lies at the base of a hill that rises almost dead perpendicular from the water to a height of at least 1500 feet on the left, the ground on the immediate right being of less altitude. The roadway to the lodge is cut out of the face of the hill high above the loch, and is so narrow that vehicles at many points find it either difficult or impossible to pass each other. It was at one time dangerous, but has in recent years been greatly improved, adequate protection having been raised between it and the brink of the precipices which fall sheer to the water many yards below. In severe winters tremendous accumulations of snow and the danger of avalanches from the hill make the path dangerous or impassable for weeks at a time. On the east side the loch is prettily fringed with willow along the steep acclivities—a circumstance which gives rise to the distinctive name—"the loch of the willows"—*Seilach* being Gaelic for willow. The traveller as he proceeds will probably observe a deep circular glen in the hill to the right of the south end of the lake. This great "scoop-out" is called the "Sanctuary," and at certain periods herds of deer, numbering scores if not hundreds of heads, may be seen taking shelter therein, the forest being noted for its herds, and once in here they are left unmolested for the time.

GAICK LODGE

is situated in the centre of a plain of considerable length but no great breadth, lying some distance south of *Loch-an-t'Seilich*,

and is so completely hemmed in that in no case can the tops of the surrounding mountains be seen. Considering the remoteness and terrible solitariness of the place, the visitor will perhaps be surprised to find a double storied shooting lodge, containing commodious and comfortable quarters for a considerable party, while adjoining it is a considerable range of buildings, including keepers' houses, quarters for gillies, byres, stables, larders, and all the adjuncts of a first-class shooting lodge. It will be noted that the slates with which the lodge is roofed are strongly cemented, the object being to exclude as much as possible the appalling snow-drifts in winter—an object, however, but imperfectly secured even by cemented slates and double windows and door, as no protection seems adequate against the searching character of the powdery snow. The visitor in July and August will perhaps be scarcely more surprised by the appearance of the wonderful circle of hills than by the aspect of the valley in which the lodge stands. Although situated in the very heart of the Grampians, some hundreds of feet above sea-level, the plain is as green as an English lawn. Grass grows so luxuriantly that the scythe is every year applied, and the greater part of the winter's provender for bestial is thus obtained at the very door.

MARVELLOUS PANORAMA OF HILLS AND LOCHS.

Arrived at the lodge, and gazing around, the visitor finds himself startled not less by the stupendous height than by the wonderful and unaccustomed contours and character of the hills, which literally enclose the valley—hills that look the more stupendous from their proximity and their sheer acclivities. No verbal description can conjure up an intelligible picture of the marvellous panorama. Not that the heights and depths awe us as do the Cairngorms. With towering hills, people are accustomed to associate terrible rocks and precipices. While the hills that hem in the valley of Gaick rise almost perpendicular to heights of from 1500 to 2000 feet, and occasionally have their faces scarped and jagged into great

acclivities of rock and fallen fragments of rock, the contours are as a rule beautifully soft and rounded, their faces being clothed with short heather and verdant pasture to the very summits, the margins of the numerous water courses being of a remarkably rich green hue. When on a sombre day, after a genial summer shower, the sun ventures occasionally to throw a sudden effulgence on these ascending slopes draped with royal purple and emerald green, the effect is surprisingly beautiful. To ascend to the summits of these semi-perpendicular masses is toilsome in the extreme. Yet to get out of the valley of Gaick for sporting purposes the ascent must necessarily be made. In many places the slopes are so steep that it is practically impossible to retain foothold. To enable the ascent to be accomplished zig-zag footpaths traverse the hill faces, but even by these the climb is a most arduous undertaking, testing the wind and the limbs in a way that is extremely trying even to those accustomed to such labours. To watch the gradual ascent of sportsmen, keepers with dogs, ghillies with guns, and ponies with panniers and deer saddles, is a most interesting sight. As the climbers approach the top they look from the valley like moving pigmies. Nor is the surprise of the venturesome visitor lessened when he reaches the top. The summits being about 1500 feet altitude, the scene presents the aspect of an extensive table land, broken here and there by lateral glens and corries, from which escape seems in vain. In short, Gaick is one of the wonders of the Highlands !

LOCHS, STREAMS, AND ANGLING.

In addition to Loch-an-t'Seilich, already referred to, there are several other sheets of water in the glen branching off from the main valley, such as *Loch Vrotten*, *Loch-an-Doune*, and *Loch-an-Dearg*, as well as numerous streams connecting or running into the lakes, and all are literally "moving" with trout. The angling, in fact, cannot be surpassed. Hundreds of dozens of the finest trout could be landed in the course of a summer and autumn. On a favourable day it is scarcely

possible to cast without hooking, and frequently two or three fish are on the line at the same time. Some years ago a large number of young trout from the Howietoun hatchery, near Stirling, were placed in the water, and since their introduction there has been an increase in numbers and a remarkable improvement in condition. The fishing in Gaick lochs and streams is reserved by the shooting lessee.

TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE IN GAICK.

In the closing days of 1700 Gaick was the scene of a dreadful catastrophe which forms an epoch in Highland chronology. About old Christmas Day Captain John Macpherson of Ballachroan, near Kingussie, and formerly an officer in the 92nd Regiment, accompanied by four attendants, left the Strath to engage in a deer hunt in the gloomy recesses of Gaick. Macpherson was known in Badenoch by the *cognomen* of "*Ant-Oaighear Dubh*," or the "Black Captain," presumably from his swarthy complexion, although some accounts have it that the affix "black" was applied in consequence of cruel measures he is said to have employed in pressing fellow Highlanders into the army, while in other quarters the term is said to have been applied because of a belief prevailing in those superstitious times that he had entered into some infernal compact with the "*Fear Dubh*," by which euphemism Highlanders occasionally speak of the Evil One! The only place of shelter in the glen at the time was a small sheiling or hut situated near the base of one of the hills already referred to—to the south-east of the lodge through a natural depression, in part of which a tiny rill trickles down in summer, though sometimes the rill assumes larger proportions during the storms of winter. The walls of the hut were built of rough stones and sod, the roof was presumably of divots or rushes, and it is stated that for greater stability the "couples" were driven deep into the ground below the foundation of the walls. The "Black Officer" and his companions took with them provisions to last for three days, and doubtless they contemplated the probability of adding an

abundance of venison to their home stores. The movements and doings of the party after they shouldered the hill above Nuide Beag, opposite Captain Macpherson's house at Ballachroan, near Kingussie, will for ever remain shrouded in obscurity. All that is known for certainty is that they arrived safely in Gaick. The weather at the time is said to have been so frosty that Macpherson was able to cross the Spey on the ice. Either on the last night of the year, or on the following night, a storm, dreadful in its violence, swept over the Central Highlands, and its ferocity, we may be sure, would be in no way tempered in the wilds of Gaick. When the hunters did not return to the Strath on the third day a number of people set out for Gaick in search of the missing party, whose names may here be given—Captain John Macpherson of Ballachroan and four attendants, Donald Macgillivray, John Macpherson, Duncan Macfarlane, and (James) Grant. From the version of a contemporary resident in the district we now quote :—“ Upon reaching the glen the search party discovered that the house had disappeared, and upon approaching its site a vast volume of snow at the foot sufficiently explained their fate. Early on the next day all the active men in the country assembled and proceeded to Gaick, and upon digging into the snow where the house had stood the dead bodies of four of the men were found in the following positions :—Captain Macpherson lying in bed upon his face ; Grant and John Macpherson also in bed with their arms stretched out over each other ; and Macgillivray in a sitting posture with one of his hands at his foot as if in the act of putting on or taking off his shoes. The body of Macfarlane was not found until after the disappearance of the snow, when it was discovered a considerable distance from the house. This was accounted for by the supposition that he was standing when the avalanche came down, and, thus presented to the rolling volume, had been carried away in the general wreck of the building ; while the beds of the rest, having been only heath spread on the floor, were protected from removal by the base line of the wall.” A number of fine deer hounds were also

crushed to atoms. Stones from the shieling were carried to a distance of 300 or 400 yards, and part of the roof and thatch for nearly a mile ; the guns were bent, broken, and twisted in every possible shape ; and by some their extraordinary contortions were attributed to electricity. Part of the wall of the bothy remains distinctly visible to-day after the lapse of over 100 years. Intelligence of such a catastrophe would create excitement even in those days of dreadful accidents, and we can imagine how tremendous the sensation must have been among a population prone to superstition, more especially in view of the evil doings associated with Captain Macpherson's name. Seventy years ago the mention of "*Cail Ghaig*" (*Loss of Gaick*) would have hushed a merry company into silence, and even to this day many aged people speak of the catastrophe in tones of solemnity, retaining still a vestige of belief in the ascription to supernatural agency. Through the exertions of the late Mr. Alexander Macpherson, Solicitor, and British Linen Bank Agent, Kingussie, a commemorative cairn has been erected on the spot where the hut stood. Old stories of traditions die hard, but there are contemporary writings which place the character of the "Black Officer" in a more amiable light, and that show him to have been a gentleman, with views far in advance of his time.

EXCURSION No. V.—18 miles and 14 miles.

CLUNY CASTLE, LAGGAN, and LOCH LAGGAN or GLENTRUIM
an DALWHINNIE.

The last Excursion of which we shall give a brief description is one that no visitor to Kingussie should omit to make. Of this tour the objective point is Loch Laggan, or Tulloch Station, on the West Highland Railway. Given a fine day and favourable weather conditions, and the pleasures of this walk or drive will remain an abiding recollection. The scenery is

extremely varied and for the most part delightful. The Loch, Ardverikie Castle, the Islands, Kinloch Laggan Lodge, and the general surroundings, are of themselves worth going many miles to see, and half-way on the road is Cluny Castle, the ancient seat of the chiefs of the Clan Macpherson, the home of numerous objects of uncommon interest, and around which so many historical associations cling. To this tour several days could be devoted with profit and pleasure, and it may be well to state that those who wish to explore the western section of the lordship of Badenoch with some minuteness will find accommodation at the Drumgask Hotel, Laggan Bridge, 11 miles from Kingussie, and at Loch Laggan Hotel, 18 miles, while comfortable quarters might be got at many of the private houses in the district. In recent years many visitors from the south have extended their patronage to Laggan notwithstanding the distance from railway stations, and have expressed themselves delighted with the charms of the country, the freedom from the constraints and conventionalities of the regular and recognised summer resorts, and the genuine kindness and hospitality of the inhabitants.

The journey can be accomplished either by means of private hire; by Lochaber coach, which leaves Kingussie daily, about 1.20 p.m., and by which the return journey could, if desired, be made next morning without serious self-denial on the part of the late riser; or by coach leaving Kingussie daily (during the summer months only) at 9 a.m., returning from Loch Laggan at 2 p.m., which permits of a stay there of 2 hours.

Assuming that the visitor has had no time to make himself thoroughly acquainted with Kingussie before starting, it may be worthy of mention that the extremely elegant building he will pass on the right immediately after leaving the "Duke of Gordon" Hotel is the United Free Church Manse, claimed by the legal Frees, perhaps the finest edifice of the kind connected with the denomination in the rural districts of Scotland, or for the matter of that in the towns either. The mansion is a gift to the Free Church of his native town by the late Mr. George

R. Mackenzie, who from being a humble Kingussie boy rose by industry, perseverance, energy, and integrity to be President of that gigantic concern, the Singer Sewing-Machine Manufacturing Company, New York and Glasgow. About half-a mile from Kingussie pass on the right the farm of *Pitmain*, where in the old coaching days, stood a well-known hotel and extensive coaching stables. Here on the right the new farm-house of Ballachroan and steadings. On reaching the summit of first ascent about a mile from Kingussie, there may be seen near a clump of trees on the right the old farm-house of Ballachroan, the residence at the time of his tragic death in Gaick already referred to of Captain John Macpherson, or, as he was commonly known in the district, "The Black Officer." It was from here that he started on the ill-fated hunting expedition to Gaick in the last days of 1700. He crossed the Spey, it is said, on the ice, and the last seen of him alive was crossing the hill opposite the house on the way to Gaick. On left is *Aultlarie Farm-house*. At Aultlarie Bridge leave the estate of Mr. Baillie, enter the Newtonmore estate of Mr. Macpherson of Balavil.

NEWTONMORE—REMARKABLE PROGRESS OF A VILLAGE.

Three miles west of Kingussie is the village of Newtonmore, which furnishes a better illustration than most Highland villages of the remarkable progress that can be made in the course of a few years. True it is that from an early period of last century, Newtonmore itself was a place of importance, from the fact that here was held the biggest stock markets between Inverness and Doune or Falkirk. The old *drove road* from the north across the Monaliadh hills to the south passed the village, and to the annual market stock came from all quarters. From near the east end down half-way to where the railway station now lies, along what is now the golf course, the whole space forty years ago used to be covered with cattle, sheep, horses, and other bestial. The stir at the October markets for two or three days can hardly be realised by anyone who was not present on these occasions. Marts have now destroyed the old

markets everywhere. With the decay of the market, the "stance" at Newtonmore in due time came to be shorn of its stir and glory—from the bucolic point of view; but the whirligig of time brings about its revenges.

DROVERS AND GOLFERS COMPARED.

What once was a pandemonium of beasts and human beings—of warring, fighting bulls, of mooing beasts of the cattle kind, and the bleating of the kind that are sheep, of striving, struggling, swearing drovers, dealers, and owners—is now—What? What but a Golf Course, of course—"one of the best inland links I have ever played over," declares the veteran golfer, Tom Morris of St. Andrews, who played over it for two days in 1899. Where used to rage the maddened distracted nowt—"the ourie cattle and the silly sheep"—and the drovers with their *cromags*, there are now to be seen human beings in the height of fashion, albeit strangely attired at times, and these also have *cromags* not so terribly dissimilar in form from those that used to be employed by the drovers as goads for their unruly charges. But those pieces of timber to-day are golf sticks, and it is averred that even from the owners of these and the accompanying unruly balls strange language is sometimes heard—strong even—which plain unsophisticated people declare cannot be distinguished from the swearing of the old time drovers!

"SLIABH-NA-STRONE."

FORTY NEW HOUSES COST £40,000.

This is the Gaelic name for Newtonmore—*sliabh* being Gaelic for moor. Strone or *sron* is the hill, or ness, or nose about the village, hence the moor of Strone. Not so many years since there were not so many slated houses in the whole village, while many of the houses themselves presented to the eye of the stranger a most dilapidated appearance. What a change to-day! There is now only one thatched house in the place; and everywhere new villas, houses, shops, churches are visible.

It is said that something like £40,000 has been expended in stone and lime alone in Newtonmore since the first edition of "Crerar's Guide" was published fifteen years ago.

Some 40 or 50 new houses have been built in that time, including the railway station. For its size no place is better frequented by summer visitors. It is said that something over £2000 is drawn in rents each season.

The golf course is one of the great attractions; another is the free permission to fish. The golf course, as already stated on the authority of Tom Morris, is one of the best in the inlands, and has now been extended to a full one of 18 holes.

New water supplies have been introduced, and the drainage improved, so that the village is now quite up to date.

The population is about 600. There are 2 hotels, a temperance hotel, post and telegraph offices, public hall and library.

SPEY BRIDGE: ROAD TO PERTH.

At the west end of the village a road branches away to the left—another a hundred yards a-head, passing at right angles, goes to Newtonmore Station—the road leading to Perth, which, proceeding south-west, passes over the Spey by a stone bridge, and thence on past *Glentruim House*, *Etteridge* farm-house; *Fall of Truim* farm-house, *Crubenmore Lodge*, &c., to *Dalwhinnie* (Loch Ericht 14 miles), *Drumouchter*, *Blair-Atholl*, *Pitlochry*, *Dunkeld*, and *Perth*.

BATTLE OF INVERNAHAVON.

A short distance to the west of the bridge where the river Truim enters the Spey, there, at a spot called Invernahavon (*Innir-na-h-amhainn*, "the mouth of the river"), an extremely sanguinary battle was fought in the fourteenth century between the Clan Chattan and the Camerons of Lochaber with regard to certain lands, the rightful ownership of which had for generations been disputed.

"It would," says a writer, "be difficult to adduce a more prominent example of this latter trait in the character of the Scottish Gael (*i.e.*, 'the

proud, unbending spirit and a marked determination upon all occasions and at all hazards to maintain their honours and uphold their personal consequence') that the bitter contention for the chieftainship of the Clan Chattan confederation, which has existed for more than 500 years between the families of Mackintosh of Macintosh and Macpherson of Clunie. Strife and discord had prevailed to such an alarming extent among the Celtic tribes that the Clan Chattan had divided themselves into various families or septs, each assuming a distinctive patronymic, and acknowledging a separate head or chieftain. The result of this was that continual series of contentions and quarrels existed between different branches of the original confederacy. Some authorities inform us that the famous combat on the North Inch of Perth, A.D. 1396, took place for the express purpose of settling the differences of two branches of the clan who had long entertained a mortal hatred to each other.

"The exact date of the battle of Invernahavon is not known, but it is generally believed to have taken place previous to the mortal combat at Perth, and indeed to have been the principal origin of that bloody combat."

PHONES LODGE.

After crossing the bridge, a road further on to the left takes to Phones Shooting Lodge, the property on which it stands belonging to Mr. Macpherson of Balavil. The lodge is not visible from the road. On the west side of the river is the extensive and elegant

MANSION-HOUSE OF GLENTRUIM,

the property of Mr. Macpherson, which extends for a long distance south and westwards. The Truim at times yields good baskets of trout, and an occasional grilse and salmon may be got. A road to the right leads to Glentruim House farmstead, and on to Laggan bridge. There are some pretty bits of scenery along the river towards Dalwhinnie, especially at Etteridge and Falls of Truim, but after passing the shooting lodge of Crubenmore the country is bleak for many miles to Struan Station.

DALWHINNIE.

Dalwhinnie has made considerable progress during the past few years. A number of new houses have been erected, as well

as a *Distillery* of considerable size and an *Established Church*. There is here a large hotel, part of which is occupied by sportsmen in the season, and it forms the headquarters of the army of anglers who annually resort to the great sheet of water *Loch Ericht*, the eastern end of which is within a short distance of the hostelry. The loch is 18 miles long, and discharges at the Rannoch end by a stream which eventually mingles with the Tay. Loch Ericht is famous for *salmo ferox*. There is also a private hotel, and a general merchant's store is in the vicinity.

Dalwhinnie was a noted station in the old coaching days, and long before, as it was the natural pass from Perthshire to the lowlands. Here Johnnie Cope and his army encamped, and so, doubtless, also Montrose and Dundee, the gallant Claverhouse. A road seven miles in length leads across the hill northwards to Laggan Bridge and the Lochaber highway. On the north side of Loch Ericht, and some miles distant, Sir John Ramsden of Ardverikie, proprietor of the ground, has a shooting lodge, and in Ben Alder, near by, is

PRINCE CHARLIE'S CAVE,

which for some time sheltered Prince Charlie and Cluny Macpherson, and Cameron of Lochiel, after the disaster at Culloden. A reward of £30,000 was offered for the capture of the Prince, but although his place of concealment was known to a few persons, no one was base enough to betray him. Three miles south of the hotel is *Drumouchter* Lodge (Mr. Macpherson of Glentruim), and not far distant is the *County March* between Perth and Inverness. The whole district has an unenviable notoriety for snowstorms, which occasionally cause blocks on the Highland Railway. From Dalwhinnie a good mountaineer would make his way to Gaick, Glenfeshie, and Braemar. Near the Inverness and Perth County March is Dalnaspidal Station, the highest point on the Inverness and Perth section of the Highland Railway. The highway begins to decline rapidly to the south of Dalnaspidal, and onwards to Struan Station. The country is bare and uninteresting till Struan is reached, and the beautiful vale and woods of Atholl are entered.

NEWTONMORE TO LOCHABER.

CRAIGDHU, CLUNY CASTLE, SHOOTING LODGES, LOCH LAGGAN,
LOCH SPEY, &c.

Returning to the point at the Newtonmore Hotel where we diverged for Dalwhinnie, we now take up the Lochaber road. On the right is *Glenbanchor Shooting Lodge* (Mr. Macpherson of Balavil, Newtonmore, and Phones), and on the right *St. Columba Church* (Church of Scotland), also United Free Church. Progressing, pass on right farmhouse of *Banchor*. Behind it is an ancient burying-ground called in Gaelic *Cladh Bhrìd*, or Bridget's Churchyard. The road here crosses the river *Calder*, a good angling stream in its upper reaches among the hills, 45 miles from Fort William, and 7 from Laggan Post Office.

LAGGAN PARISH: CLUNY ESTATE.

At Calder Bridge the Parish of Kingussie is left and that of *Laggan* entered, as also the estate of Cluny Macpherson. The name of the parish in full is Laggan-Choinnich, the *lagan* or hollow of Kenneth. The present church is at Laggan Bridge, some seven miles ahead, but the old church (dedicated to St. Kenneth) was at the nearest end of Loch Laggan, where the ruins are still to be seen. Until some thirty years ago the estate of Cluny extended from Calder to the Lochaber boundary, and included Ardverikie and Ben Alder, which about that time were sold to Sir John Ramsden. On the west bank of the Calder is *Biallid* farm-house. Some distance onwards on the right is another old burying ground called *Cladh Eadail*, and a chapel is supposed to have existed here and at Banchor. This part of Speyside must have been thickly populated at one time, judging from the sites, or *larachs*, of houses. Opposite on the south is the confluence of the Truim with the Spey and the railway line can be seen winding along the moor. On a fine summer day the traveller as he progresses here will admire the

forest of birches that struggles up the acclivities of Craighdu, whose name formed the war-cry of the Macphersons in olden times. The hill forms a striking object in the landscape. It acts as a kind of barometer to the district; for whenever Craighdu assumes a cap of mist it is popularly believed that rain or storm is not far away. Presently two small lakes are passed on the left, with the Spey flowing along the south margin. These are called *Lochan Ovie*, supposed to be derived from *umhaidh*, dreadful. Beautifully situated amid birches on the west side is *Craighdu House*, the residence of Mrs. (Captain) Fitzroy, a sister of the present laird of Cluny. From this point a splendid view is obtained of the dark beetling cliffs of Craighdu. In a cave that any native will point out, high up in the face of the rock, is *Cluny's Cave*, where the Cluny of the '45 lay concealed for a time, and whence he could witness the movements of the military sent to effect his capture. Opposite Craighdu, but not visible from that side of the Spey, is Glen-truim House, from which a road leads along to Laggan Bridge. On the summit of a hill dominating Craighdu House is a massive Memorial Cairn, erected to the memory of the lady of Cluny, mother of the present Chief. On the top of another hill some miles to the west a corresponding cairn commemorates the Chief's father, "Old" Cluny. His heir, Duncan Macpherson, who was at one time Colonel of the "Black Watch," and led them at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, died shortly after coming into his inheritance. He was succeeded by a younger brother, Ewan, who was Colonel of the 93rd Highlanders and commander of the Highland Volunteer Brigade. He also died in 1900, and the present Chief, Albert, is the youngest of the brothers. After passing Craighdu, the valley of Laggan opens to the gaze. The first house to be passed is *Auchmore*. The Spey flows sluggishly in the valley, and on the opposite side some distance further west is the farm-house of *Breakachy*. We next come to the farm of Cluny Mains. The house and steading where the mail coach horses are changed is situated at the entrance to the eastern approach to

CLUNY CASTLE: RELICS OF PRINCE CHARLIE.

The fine residence of the Chief of the Macphersons. Situated on a lofty terrace on the right, it commands a fine view of the Grampians and the valley of Laggan. The Castle occupies the site of an older one that was burned in 1746, immediately after the suppression of the Rebellion. A few relics of the old building may be seen in the gateway behind the present Castle. Among the ancient relics preserved in Cluny Castle is the Black Chanter. Another is a flag or *bratach*, which bear traces of having been carried in many a bloody fight. Carefully preserved also is a letter from Prince Charlie inviting the Cluny of the day to join his standard. Cluny at this time was Captain at Ruthven Castle in the service of King George, and the fact of his withdrawal of allegiance from the sovereign rendered his case exceedingly precarious. Among some other curious relics are some Andrea Ferrara swords, besides specimens of Lochaber axes, and the silver targe worn by Prince Charlie at Culloden. Also there can be seen a portrait in oil of the Prince. Close to the roadway, some distance to the west of the Castle, is *St. Ternan's Cemetery*, where are interred the remains of the Chiefs. Here are a *sawmill* and *carpenter's shop*. Some few hundreds of yards ahead the hamlet of *Balgown* is entered, where there is a blacksmith's place; and conspicuous on the right is *Craigville*, the residence of the Medical Officer of the Parish. At this point we enter upon the extensive property of Sir John Ramsden, Bart., which, with some breaks, extends to Moy, many miles to the west. Some distance ahead on the right is *Gaskbeg*, now a farm-house, but at one time the Laggan Parish Manse, and as such occupied by the husband of Mrs. Grant of Laggan, whose "Letters from the Mountains" and "Tales of the Highlands" made her name at one time well known in the literary world. Situated in the face of the hill to the west of Gaskbeg is the Established Church Manse, and on the left close to the river the *Parish Church* and burying-ground.

LAGGAN BRIDGE POST OFFICE: HOTEL.

At this point the Spey is spanned by an iron girder bridge, from which a very extensive view may be obtained, the higher peaks of the Ben Macdhui hills being visible in the far east, while to the north rises Corbuidhe to the height of 2745 feet. The whole scenery is varied and exceedingly attractive. The roadway at the south end of the bridge lies at an elevation only 2 feet lower than Loch Laggan, the one being 817 and the other 819—a circumstance indicating that we are now near the “great divide.” At the north end of the bridge are several houses, including a post and telegraph office and a merchant’s shop, while in the vicinity there are carpenter’s and tailor’s shops.

ROAD TO SHERRAMORE, LOCH SPEY, AND FORT-AUGUSTUS.

At Laggan Bridge a road on the right north of the Spey leads on to the wild *Pass of Corryarrick*, where the road by a series of traverses reaches the top of the mountains, whence there is a descent on *Fort-Augustus* and *Loch Ness*. Following the road we pass the Post Office on right, on left *Public School* at Gergask, some distance on *Blaragie Farm-house*, then *Coull* (where there are remains of *Druidical Circles*), *Balmishaig* and *Crathie*. On the opposite side of the river there stands a *Roman Catholic Chapel*. Further in advance, on left, is *Glen-shero Shooting Lodge*, of modern construction. A driving road connects with the upper part of Loch Laggan, and a footpath crossing the glen makes direct for Garvamore and Sherramore Shooting Lodge.

RETURNING TO LAGGAN BRIDGE,

we take up the road for Loch Laggan. Near the south end of the bridge on the left pass *United Free Church* and manse. Here a road on left leads to *Catlodge*, whence another strikes across the hill to *Dalwhinnie*, 7 miles, and another parallel with the Spey goes to *Glentruim*. Facing us above the road is *Drumgask Hotel* and posting establishment. This is another

part of Cluny Macpherson's estate. Pass on right *Laggan Curling Pond*, and at this point at the plantation the road again begins to traverse Sir John Ramsden's Ardverikie estate. A short distance ahead a road on the right leads to

CORRYARRICK AND FORT-AUGUSTUS.

which we shall follow for some distance. Here it may be mentioned that Fort-Augustus is about 25 miles distant from Laggan Bridge. Near the junction of the road is a conspicuous *planted enclosure* which commemorates the spot where Sir John Cope and his troops encamped when they "cam' to the north richt far," and whence they had to return south. On the right is

DALCHULLY HOUSE : A MEMORABLE INCIDENT.

Here the Cluny Macpherson of the '45 lay in concealment, and here he narrowly escaped capture by Sir Hector Munro, who was in quest of the arch rebel. During this memorable visit Cluny appeared in the character of a *scalag*, or herd boy, and actually took charge of Sir Hector's horse, and with his conduct Sir Hector was so well pleased that when leaving he presented the "*scalag*" with a shilling ! It may also be remarked that Dalchully House was the residence of one of the most famous, if not the most famous, of all the parochial clergymen of Laggan. This was the "*Minisdair Mor*" (the "big minister"), whose prowess on the field on Sundays in throwing the hammer, putting the stone, and playing at shinty secured him the regard and admiration of his parishioners. In those distant days athletic sports after sermons were common in this part of Badenoch. Leaving Dalchully and keeping along the river side we come to the Roman Catholic Chapel of *St. Michael's*, the chapel-house being situated on a lofty plateau at the base of *Doun-da-lamh* (the two-handed dun).

SPLENDID PICTISH FORT.

On the top of the *doun* or hill, elevated about 600 feet above the level of the plain, are the remains of what competent

authorities declare to be the most perfect specimen of the Pictish stronghold in Britain. The walls are in some places 6 feet high and 14 feet thick. The enclosure contains an acre of ground, and in the centre, on the lowest level, the builders took care to provide for a well, which they surrounded with a wall. From the top of this eminence very extensive views can be obtained of the surrounding country.

Next we come to *Sherrabeg*, once a farmer's house, but now the residence of a shepherd. Pass here *Glenshero Shooting Lodge*, and further on *Sherramore Shooting Lodge*. On the left is a sheet of water called Loch Crannachan, on which, after a tract of hot dry weather, a floating island may be seen. After leaving Sherramore we come to the once famous house of *Garvamore*, erected by General Wade for the convenience of his troops while engaged in the great military road across Corryarrick to Fort-Augustus. Immediately after the disuse of the barracks they were converted, with the old Duke of Gordon's consent, into an hotel, and a noted one it was in its day, being frequently resorted to by the Duke himself and other well-known personages. Some distance west is Loch Spey, where the river Spey springs at an altitude of 1143 feet above sea level. Returning again to the junction near Drumgask we take the

LOCH LAGGAN AND FORT-WILLIAM ROAD.

Proceeding some distance we see on the right *Strathmashie Shooting Lodge*. Strathmashie was the residence of Lachlan Macpherson, a bard, contemporary and coadjutor of James Macpherson of Ossian poems.

The next object of interest is *Faegour*, a level section of road, from which point a glimpse of *Ben Nevis* can sometimes be obtained. We enter now the lovely valley of the *Pattock*, beautifully wooded with birch and mountain ash, the winding road passing through an avenue of overhanging birches remarkable for height and general appearance. At the entrance to the defile the sound of falling water attracts attention, and examination shows the existence of a nice fall formed by the Pattock

falling over rocks. The Pattock rises in a loch far away up in Ben Alder forest, as does the Mashie, near the same spot. Both run parallel with each other for a long distance, and yet the former, turning westwards at the fall, goes into Loch Laggan and by the Spean to the Atlantic, while the Mashie, flowing eastwards into the Spey, eventually goes into the Moray Firth at Garmouth. Both streams yield good results to the angler. Proceeding along the defile of the Pattock for some distance among delightful scenery we come to *Inverpattock House*, prettily situated on the right. Further on we come to *Gallovie*, on the opposite side of the river, and a short distance from the house, which is the residence of Sir John Ramsden's Manager, there can be easily reached the falls of *Eas-a-Claiginn*, said to be the highest falls in the central Highlands. Half-a-mile beyond is the Loch Laggan Post and Telegraph Office and the Public School. Slightly in advance is the charmingly situated

ABERARDER SHOOTING LODGE,

in the vicinity of which are the ruins of the Church of St. Kenneth. Here the first view is obtained of

THE QUEEN OF BADENOCH LAKES,

Loch Laggan, 7 miles long and about 1 broad. The vista westwards from the ravine of the Pattock on a fine day is one that will permanently abide in the memory. The enjoyment to be derived from a personal visit is worth undertaking the long journey several times over. On either side mountains rise to heights of 3000 to 4000 feet, and on the south are beautifully wooded. The view westwards to the mountains of Lochaber is especially grand, and the gaze takes in the two islands in the lake—"King's Island," and "Dog's Island," both referred to,—which adds much to the picturesqueness of the view. Advancing from Aberarder Lodge the drive or walk along the winding margin of the loch is remarkably pretty. At the east end the water of the Pattock in the course of years has washed down

fine debris from the rocks above, which here forms an expanse of silvery sand, through which the waters meander to Loch Laggan. Here in the innermost corner of a cove of the loch, at the apex of a triangle, most romantically situated at the wooded base of the hill, is the

FAVOURITE ANGLERS' RESORT,

Loch Laggan Hotel. It seems to be, and really is, an ideal spot wherein to pass a holiday, angling or otherwise—the very spot to be seemingly out of the busy world altogether, and yet quite within the reach of one's letters and daily newspapers, and whence one can in a very short time get away with the least trouble and inconvenience to the busy centres of commerce and civilisation. Only the highway and a well cultivated small garden separates the hotel from the waters of the lake, which come lapping in to the very door. No wonder it is a favourite anglers' resort, a resort in which to lead a lotus life! The house is full of flies, casts, prodigious stuffed specimens of *salmo ferox*, and other angling paraphernalia; the boats are tugging at their anchors in the cove.

The character of the angling on Loch Laggan has been so well known for years that it need not here be enlarged upon. At Loch Laggan Hotel there is a station for the changing of the post horses, and here a special morning coach runs from Kingussie in the summer and autumn seasons, and after allowing travellers a stay of two hours at the loch, returns to Kingussie in time for the afternoon and evening trains.

ARDVERIKIE CASTLE: VISIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA AND PRINCE CONSORT.

Some distance before reaching Loch Laggan there was passed spanning the Pattock a substantial iron girder bridge with a lodge at the off side. This is the approach to Ardverikie, the magnificent Highland residence of Sir John Ramsden, who

purchased this portion of Cluny Macpherson's estate since the place was visited by the Queen and Prince Consort. The mansion is on a site little elevated above the waters of Loch Laggan, and in consequence the effect of its great proportions is somewhat lost on the spectator unless he views it close at hand. The best sight is got from the north side of the loch. When Sir John purchased the estate the house was only what the Queen in her book calls "a comfortable shooting lodge built of stone, with many nice rooms in it," but the new owner on getting possession expended large sums of money in remodelling and enlarging the house, transforming it into a remarkably fine building. The improvements had not been completed when the whole structure was destroyed by fire in 1873. In the time of the Marquis of Abercorn of that time, who was lessee of the house and shootings when the Queen's visit was paid, Sir Edwin Landseer was frequently a guest, and he devoted periods of his stay to the ornamenting of the drawing-room and ante-room walls with exquisite deer-stalking sketches. These of course also perished in the conflagration, to the great regret of Sir John and all lovers of art. At enormous expense a new house has been built, and the present castle is one of the most magnificent structures in the Highlands, and well worthy of being the principal edifice on Ardverikie estate, which is of immense size. Since Sir John purchased, many millions of pine, larch, and other trees have been planted for miles in every direction, and will soon be of great value.

LOCH LAGGAN HOTEL TO TULLOCH STATION.

The drive from the hotel along the loch side in the direction of Tulloch Station of the West Highland Railway is of the most attractive character in good weather. Near the west end of the loch is *Moy* lodge, also the property of Sir John Ramsden, and not far distant is a house where travellers can be served with meals, but no alcoholic liquors are sold. A few miles further on we arrive at Tulloch. Some distance further on there can

be seen from the road the famed *Parallel Roads* of Glenroy. The scenery along the highway is most attractive all the way to Fort-William.

And now the "Guide" has to bid good-bye to the visitor whom he has had the pleasure to accompany through the varied attractions of the lordship of Badenoch.





PUBLISHED BY GEORGE A. CRERAR, KINGUSSIE.





*Excursions arranged daily to all places
of interest.*

The KINGUSSIE & DISTRICT
Posting Establishment

(The principal and only complete Livery Stables in District),

KINGUSSIE.

**Job and Post Horses supplied. Special Contracts arranged.
Carriages—All kinds kept.**

*Patronised by all the Principal Shooting Tenants
and Proprietors in the District.*

Special Rates for CARRIAGES to and from Tulloch Station, West Highland Railway.

PONIES FOR CHILDREN.

CORN, HAY, STRAW, COALS.

LUGGAGE CARTED.

Charges less than any other Establishment in the District.

Sporting, Saddlery, and Sporrans Warehouse

In connection.

**SPORTING AMMUNITION AND FISHING TACKLE
OF BEST QUALITY.**

**Carriage and Cart Harness. Panniers. Saddles,
Game and Cartridge Bags, etc.**

MILITARY AND PRIVATE DRESS SPORRANS

A SPECIALITY.

*Selection of STAG'S, ROE'S, RAM'S, and other Animal's Heads
and Skins, always in stock.*

Telegrams:—"MACFARLANE, KINGUSSIE."



SELECT LIBRARY

Of Popular Fiction.

NEW BOOKS ADDED +
+ AS PUBLISHED.

Catalogues on Application.

PHOTOGRAPH VIEWS AND SOUVENIR GOODS.

A COMPLETE STOCK OF
Photograph Views of the District,
IN SCRAP OR MOUNTED IN VARIOUS STYLES.

Also a Pretty Collection of - -

- - Studies of Birds and Animals.

WHITEWOOD GOODS with LOCAL VIEWS and GLAN TARTANS.
LARGE ASSORTMENT OF PLUSH GOODS.

A Variety of Nick-Nacks with Six Microscopic Views of District

MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS.

GEO. A. CRERAR,
STATIONER AND FANCY GOODS DEALER,
KING STREET, KINGUSSIE.

EXCELLENCE AND ECONOMY! VARIETY AND VALUE!!

These are four factors which combine to make

The Dispensary, Kingussie,

The most desirable House in the District for the purchase of **Pure Drugs, Proprietary Articles, Patent Medicines, Toilet Requisites**, also **Sick-Room and Nursery Appliances, etc.**

PROPRIETOR—

W. S. MACDONALD *(Chemist by Examination),*

Late with

Duncan Flockhart & Co., Chemists to the Queen, Edinburgh.

John Richardson & Co., Contractors to H.M. Navy, Leicester.

Oppenheimer, Son, & Co., Ltd., Queen Victoria St., London.

DISPENSING.

This is a special branch of the business and is conducted under the strictest rules and supervision, the system adopted ensuring accuracy and reliability of result. Prescriptions of any origin are dispensed to meet the requirements of the British and Foreign Pharmacopœias.

PRECISION, PURITY, EXCELLENCE, and ELEGANCE.

Photographic Requisites of every description supplied.

Free tuition and assistance to beginners.

The Printing and Developing of Amateur's Negatives a Speciality.

TOBACCO, CIGARS, and CIGARETTES
of the finest quality, always kept in stock.

A Large and Comprehensive stock of the finest

- - PERFUMES - -

by the finest Distillers, at very moderate prices.



Telegrams:—

“M'LAUCHLAN, KINGUSSIE.”
“M'LAUCHLAN, NEWTONMORE.”



J. & P. M'LAUCHLAN

(OF PITLOCHRY),

Family Butchers, Poulterers, etc.,

High Street, KINGUSSIE.

Branch at Newtonmore.

*Large Stock of prime-fed, home-killed BEEF, MUTTON,
and PORK, always on hand, also LAMB and
VEAL in season.*

*Corned Beef, Salt Rounds, and Pickled Tongues,
always on hand.*

POULTRY A SPECIALITY.

HOTELS, SHOOTING LODGES, & PRIVATE FAMILIES

supplied at strictly moderate prices.

All orders by Post receive prompt and careful attention.

- - Our own Vans call for and deliver orders daily. - -

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

NOTE ADDRESS—

J. & P. M'LAUCHLAN,

BUTCHERS,

KINGUSSIE and NEWTONMORE.

AFFLECK F. FYFE,

Grocer, Ironmonger, and Coal Agent,

KINGUSSIE.

A Supply of the Best Cadzow Household
Coals always in Store.

Quotations for English Coal in Waggon Loads
supplied on Application.

TOYS and FANCY GOODS.

Local Views on Whitewood.

Fishing Rods and Fishing Tackle

AGENT FOR—

CALEDONIAN SHEEP DIP.

QUIBELL'S SHEEP DIP.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE CO.

ABERDEEN DYE-WORKS.

Reg. Telegraphic Address :
"Angler, Inverness."
Established 1887.



Inverness Sporting Emporium.

*Select Stock of Sport-
ing Guns, Rifles, and
Ammunition.*

*Salmon and Trout Rods
and Fishing Tackle of
every description.*

*Gun Repairing and
Cartridge Loading
by Practical Men.*

Golf Clubs, Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Croquet, Shinty, Hockey, Footballs, Boxing,
Fencing, and every Athletic Requisite.

HIGH-CLASS TAXIDERMY.

Stags' Heads, Birds, Fish, and Animals stuffed in
their natural attitudes, and set up in Glass Cases
if required, by practical men.

Every Shooting, Fishing, Athletic, and Estate Requisite supplied at

— **MACPHERSON'S,** —
24 CHURCH STREET, INVERNESS.

THE PALACE HOTEL

GRANTOWN-ON-SPEY.

*This First-Class Hotel, which has recently been re-built on an extensive scale, and
re-furnished and decorated throughout, is now*

One of the Leading Hotels in the North of Scotland.

EXTENSIVE GOLF COURSE WITHIN FIVE MINUTES WALK.

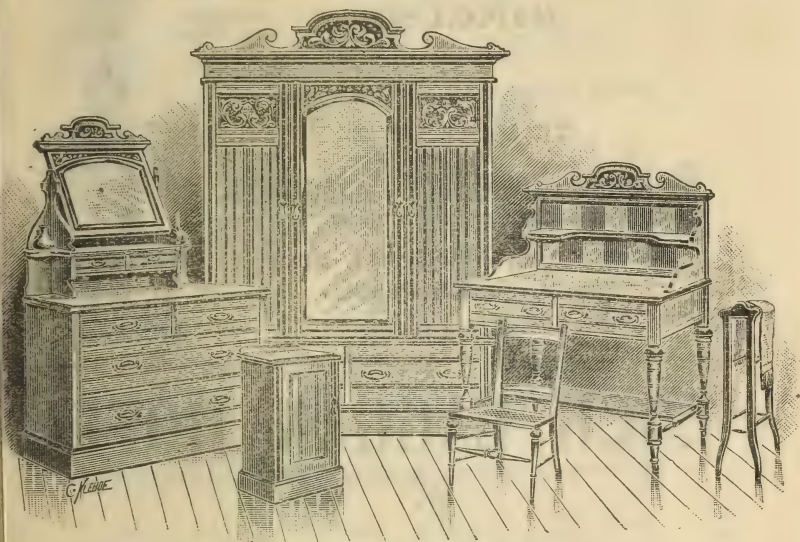
FISHING ON THE RIVER SPEY.

The Posting Establishment is thoroughly equipped with Carriages of
all descriptions.

Bus meets all trains at the Highland Railway Station, and will attend at
G.N.S.R. on notice being given.

G. R. HASTIELOW, Proprietor.

THE _____
**Strathspey Ironmongery, Cabinetmaking,
and Furnishing Warehouse.**



Every description of

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

. Made on the Premises.

Bedroom Suites as above from £8 15s.

GEORGE ANDERSON,
GRANTOWN-ON-SPEY.

Oldest Established Jewellery Business in Town.

JAMES GOULDER,

WATCHMAKER,

Goldsmith and Highland Ornament Maker,

KINGUSSIE (Opposite
Post Office).

Visitors to Kingussie and District should see

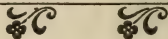
GOULDER'S
Highland Jewellery Selections

**Cairngorms, Amethysts, Spey
Pearls, Scotch Pebbles,**

in Gold and Silver Mountings.



LOCH LAGGAN HOTEL



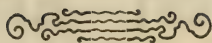
Half-way between Kingussie and Tulloch Stations
(West Highland Railway); close to the lonely and
interesting Loch Laggan; noted for its excellent fishing;
healthy locality; dry and bracing; lovely drives and
splendid mountain scenery.

POSTING in all its branches.

**Mail Coaches between Kingussie and Tulloch pass and re-
pass Daily in connection with Trains.**

**Visitors and Tourists can depend on every comfort,
combined with Moderate Charges.**

Mrs. E. CAMERON, Proprietrix.



Thos. M'Gillivray,


MERCHANT,

High Street,

KINGUSSIE,

GIVES THE BEST VALUE.



 Glad to see you at any time.

JOHN M'PHERSON,

Tailor, Clothier, and ~ ~ ~

~ Highland Dress Maker,

High St., KINGUSSIE.

CLAN TARTANS and SPORTING TWEEDS.

The Highland Dress Complete.

Travelling Plaids and Rugs.

Shooting and Fishing Capes.

Kilt and Knicker Hose.



Loch Ericht Hotel, DALWHINNIE.

THE above well-known and commodious Hotel, situated at the foot of the Grampians, and 1184 feet above sea level ; within a few minutes' walk of the Dalwhinnie Station, Highland Railway, and situated in the midst of Highland Scenery of the finest description ; and is furnished with every convenience for the comfort of Families, Tourists, and Anglers. Recommended as a Health Resort, being dry and bracing. Excellent Fishing on Loch Ericht, and on the river Truim, for Grilse and Trout. Parties staying at the Hotel have the privilege of fishing on the Loch and River, and are supplied with boats free of charge.

POSTING ESTABLISHMENT COMPLETE.

DONALD M'KENZIE, Lessee.

LOCH ERICHT Truim Bank Private Hotel DALWHINNIE.

THIS Hotel is comfortably furnished for the use of Families, Anglers, and Tourists. Highly recommended as a Health Resort, being dry and bracing. Fishing and Boats on Loch Ericht, famed for its *Salmo Ferox*, free to parties staying at the Hotel.

ONE MINUTE FROM STATION.

TENNIS AND CROQUET GREENS.

Parties Boarded by the Week.

Ladies' Drawing-Room. Large Dining and Smoking Rooms. Private Sitting Rooms.

Luncheons and Teas to suit Train Service.

Mrs. M'DONALD, Proprietrix
(Late Loch Ericht Hotel).

M. STEWART

Milliner and Dressmaker,
KINGUSSIE.

Always on hand a choice stock of

Straws.

Frillings.

Ribbons.

Laces.

Flowers.

Blouses.

Feathers.

etc., etc.

SILK BLOUSES A SPECIALITY.

JOHN HUME,

Saddler and Harness Maker,

HIGH STREET, KINGUSSIE.

Horses carefully measured and neatly fitted.

Repairs receive prompt and careful attention.

CART AND GIG HARNESS. LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S
RIDING SADDLES.

DEER SADDLES and GAME PANNIERS.

*Carriage Rugs, Horse Clothing, Whips, Bits, Sponges, Brushes,
Clipping Machines, Harness Composition, Embrocation,
and all Stable Requisites.*

TRAVELLING BAGS & PORTMANTEAUS.

STAG HEADS AND SKINS.

KINGUSSIE

West-End Furniture Warehouse

M. A. CAMPBELL,

Cabinetmaker, Upholsterer, and Furnishing Ironmonger.

Every description of Household Furniture.

DINING and DRAWING ROOM SUITES.

Wicker and Rocking Chairs. Bamboo Tables—all sizes.

BEDROOM FURNITURE.

— Beds and Bedding. —

Spring, Hair, and Wool Mattresses.

BEDROOM WARE, etc.

Carpets, Rugs, Linoleums, and Mattings.

Perambulators, Mail Carts, and Baby Chairs.

Fine Selection of GOLF CLUBS.

Repairs to Golf Clubs Promptly and
Neatly done.

TRUNKS AND TRAVELLING BOXES.

Ladies' and Gent.'s Dressing Cases.

ELECTRO SILVER-PLATE

In Great Variety.

West-End Furniture Warehouse.

Tobaccos, Cigars, Pipes, &c.

This Department receives careful attention.

*Customers can always depend upon being supplied with
Fresh Tobacco, and of First-Class Quality only.*

An Assortment of the Leading 

Fancy Tobaccos and Cigarettes.



**HAVANA, MEXICAN,
INDIAN, MANILLA, and BRITISH CIGARS.**

A Large Selection of . . .

Smokers' Requisites,

—COMPRISING—

Plain and Silver-Mounted Briar and Meerschaum Pipes,
Cigar and Cigarette Holders.

. . . . Cigar and Cigarette Cases.

Plain and Fancy Rubber and Leather Tobacco Pouches,
Vesta Boxes, &c., &c.

GEORGE A. CRERAR,

**Bookseller, Stationer, and Tobacconist,
KING STREET, KINGUSSIE.**

PIANOS . .

. . and . .

. . ORGANS,

FOR SALE OR HIRE.



BEST VALUE IN THE CITY.

DEWAR'S MUSIC WAREHOUSE,

47 YORK PLACE, PERTH.

Agent for Badenoch District for Hiring and Tuning, &c.—

GEO. A. CRERAR, BOOKSELLER,
KINGUSSIE.

